

NORTH MISSION NEWS

NORTH MISSION ASSOCIATION, 3004 16TH ST.
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 TEL:415/626-2882

Editor-in-Chief
Victor Miller

OCTOBER 1989



Photo by FUMINORI SATO

Miguel Linares' September Show at Galería Esquina de La Libertad, was the precursor of the upcoming Day of the Dead events (see Page 7).

A FULL BALLOT FOR NOVEMBER

by Brian Doohan

Some election years are sizzlers, some just fizzle. 1989 is just plain odd. The ideological standards are, in many cases, breaking down. Old allies make new enemies and vice versa. Everybody's angry and afraid and the only question left is whether they'll express their ire by coming to the polls or by staying home.

There are no state issues and no contested races. Louise Renne and Mary Callanan will be re-elected City Attorney and Treasurer unless somebody writes someone in and everybody else stays home. As usual, most of the ballot propositions are technical matters which shouldn't even be there or naked money grabs by special interests who may or may not deserve their funding.

Propositions A, E, and F fall into the "money category", appropriating funds for building safety, police/fire and retired City workers' benefits respectively. Props. C, G, J, M and N are of the "technical" class and little organized opposition has surfaced.

Propositions K and L are also technical, but of somewhat more interest. The latter would institute much-needed reforms at San Francisco's Youth Offender Facilities which are plagued with drugs, escapes and the general reputation of being "schools for crime". Police Commissioner Jose Medina calls it both a way to mandate citizen input on juvenile justice and a "cost effective way to make our City safer". There is little opposition... given the wretchedness of the status quo, any change is viewed as for the better.

Proposition K, on the other hand, has been termed "a political hot potato". Basically, it is an effort by the Deputy Sheriffs' Association to transfer security jobs at the hospitals and parks away from the police. Predictably, the cops oppose it. Chief Frank

Jordan calls the measure detrimental to public safety.

Some liberals view this as a sheriff/police zero-sum conflict and would see as many police powers and personnel as possible transferred to the Sheriff's office. But the larger question is whether the ballot is an appropriate forum for City agencies to "raid" one another. The police, for example, could put a measure on the ballot to transfer eviction duties from the Sheriff to the Tactical Squad. The passage of Prop. K could usher in a new and interesting era of bureaucratic imperialism.

City government is also at issue in Propositions D, O and W. Proposition D increases the salaries of Supervisors from \$24,000 to \$41,000 and is targeted by everyone with a grudge against the Board. A lot of the anger resulting from the removal of the two term limit on a technicality may spill over into this issue.

Proposition O, submitted by eight members of the Board of Supervisors, makes it easier for them to collect bigger campaign contributions (\$5,000 each as opposed to the present \$500). It may not have been a good idea to put this on the ballot on the same election as the pay increase.

Proposition W, a non-binding policy statement endorsing voting by mail has supporters and detractors from all sides of the political spectrum with the main concern being the potential for corruption. State Senator Quentin Kopp has issued a blistering personal attack on former Registrar Jay Patterson for supporting W and Republicans... who generally do better in low-turnout elections... are heated up over this one.

Propositions H and I fall into the City employee relations field, allowing them to transfer their sick leave and vacation pay respectively to catastrophically ill co-work-

See Page 5.

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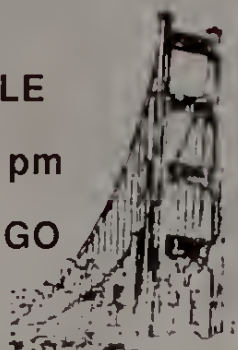
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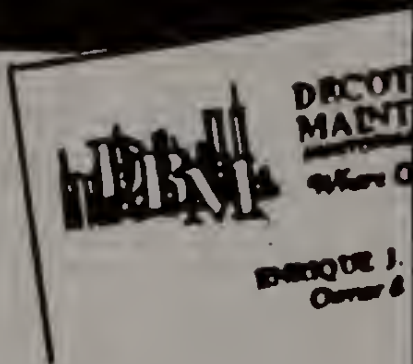
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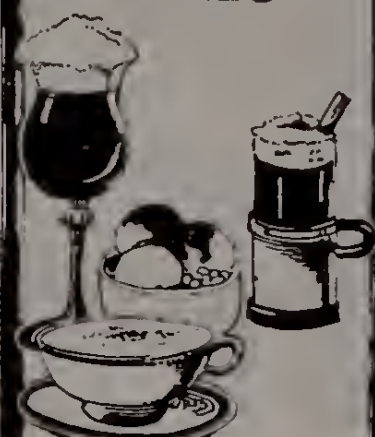
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THE ENTERTAINMENT ZONE CONTROVERSY

by Brian Doohan

An overflow crowd of Mission residents packed the Greater Faith Missionary Baptist Church on September 21st to meet with police officers and bar owners and to air their frustrations with the continuing criminal and nuisance element of 16th Street.

Over the last few months, residents of the vicinity of 16th and Albion have become increasingly annoyed at the late night activities of both bar patrons and the predators that they attract.

Complaints from residents include noise, both from the patrons and from live and recorded music, parking and traffic problems and criminal harassment of residents who must pass through the area.

Residents compared street activity to that of a "sewer" or "pig's hole". One complained of the ghoulish crew that hangs out in an empty funeral parlor parking lot to raise hell, another was annoyed by scavengers who roam the streets after the bars close collecting empty bottles and making noise. Others cited the "obnoxious college kid element" which seeps into the Mission after being turned away from SOMA hangouts.

Bar owners and managers defended their interests. Todd Engler of the Albion stated that he believes "the element" they bring in has made it a better neighborhood. A bartender blamed the rowdiness on the absence of a police

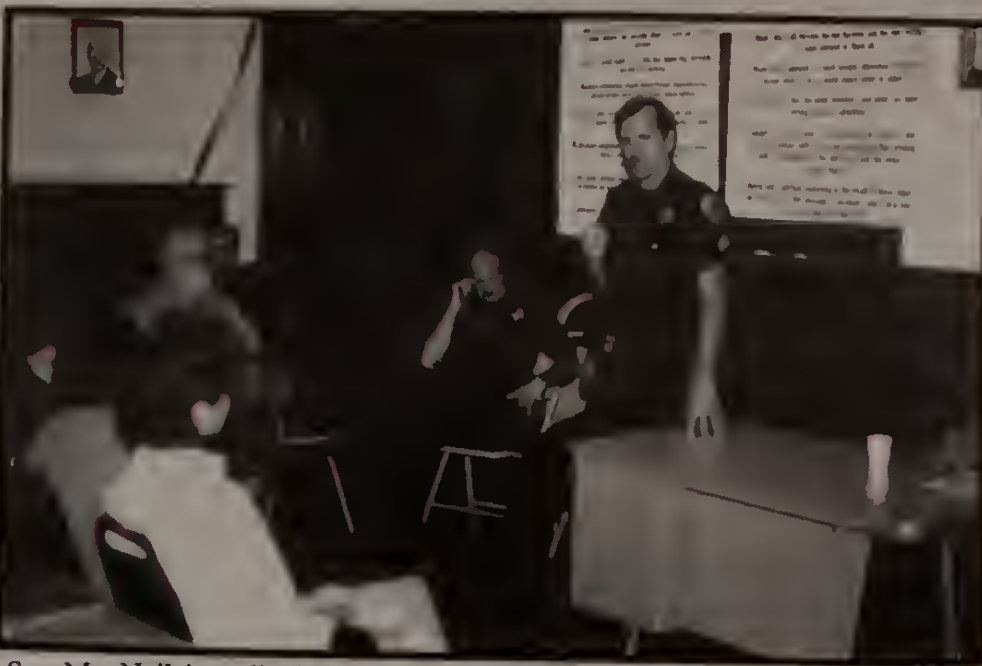
presence around 2AM when the bars let out. A representative of Esta Noche declared that it was street people, not bar patrons, who are responsible for most of the violence that plagues the neighborhood.

But David Pini, who represents an Albion Street block group in the North Mission Association, vehemently disagreed. He urged that neighbors attend the October 5th meeting of the Planning Commission to oppose the conversion of Dr. Bombays at 16th and Guerrero from a local bar to a nightclub with live music.

After sitting through these complaints, four police officers assigned to the new Community Police Officers' Program (CPOP) took the opportunity to explain, to those in attendance, the new program which is very much like the traditional "cop-on-the-beat" policy. A total of seven officers will be assigned to an area between Valencia and Harrison and 15th and 25th Streets, getting to know citizens groups and particular local crime problems.

Residents will be able to contact CPOP directly at their special number, 647-CPOP. But the officers emphasized that this is not an emergency number and people reporting incidents in need of fast attention should still call Mission Station directly at 553-0123.

In response to audience questions, the CPOP officers stated that they



Sgt. MacNeil (standing) and officer E. T. Mohrman (seated) at the North Mission Association meeting

Photo by M.P.R. Howard

would be able to respond to problems immediately outside the area (as in the case of 16th and Albion Streets) but that policing of the Valencia Gardens and Folsom/Army projects would remain the responsibility of other officers within Mission Station.

In response to complaints about the "whole new creepy crowd hanging out around Albion," the police stated that many of the criminals were driven off of Capp Street by a crackdown against prostitutes and muggings there. The Sergeant in charge compared crime fighting in the neighborhood to a squeezing a balloon... the crime, like the balloon, bulges out through your fingers in all directions.

Many Mission residents, however, still believe that the exponential crime increases are a result of a deliberate city policy to gentrify the Tenderloin by

leading criminals to believe that they will receive more lenient treatment when doing their "business" in areas where the tourists don't go.

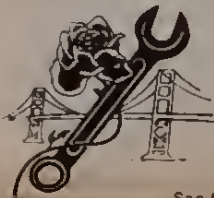
The NMA audience also received a progress report on the long-awaited police koban which is now scheduled to be operational in November.

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Bill Bennett's MALPRACTICE

Coral (Caz Lederman) enters a hospital for what appears to be a normal delivery. An overworked and immature doctor makes a series of decisions — while his superior is out sailing — with unselling results. After the birth, Coral demands an explanation of what happened and is stonewalled by the doctors. With the assistance of a social worker and a nurse who was present at the birth, she slowly comes to understand just what happened and who is responsible. But that's just the beginning of her struggle. Like *The China Syndrome* and *Silkwood*, the protagonist must surmount huge obstacles to overcome the powers that be. In this case the medical fraternity. This film packs an emotional wallop, and audiences will be on the edge of their seats. With Ian Gilmour, Bob Baines, and Pat Thomson. Directed by Bill Bennett. Color 91 mins. Australia 1989.

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Dead Poets Society KING OF CHILDREN

(Haizi Wang)
This is both an intimate drama of schoolteacher working in a remote country school and a comment on the mistakes of the Cultural Revolution. It is 1976, Mao's Cultural Revolution is ten years old and the authorities have been trying to lift 7,000 years of Chinese history. Lao Gar is a young city dweller forcibly relocated to the hinterlands to work as a laborer. Some years later, he's told to teach at the local school. Despite unruly students and nothing more than a ratty dictionary to work with, Lao Gar sets out to educate Mao-style, with little results — until he defies the official standard, and the local Party Secretary, by teaching according to his own methods, thereby inviting trouble. Director Chen Kelge (*Yellow Earth* and *The Big Parade*) belongs to the so-called "fifth generation" of Chinese filmmakers, whose radical aesthetics and transgressive themes attempt to counter the authoritarianism of contemporary China. Color. 35mm. 106 mins. ROC, 1987.

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Jerry Rees' THE BRAVE LITTLE TOASTER

While movies like *Roger Rabbit* have sparked a new interest in animation and while comic books are revived as box office monsters, movies like *The Brave Little Toaster* get lost in the hoopla. We're delighted to present a premiere theatrical showing of this wonderful, witty, and hip cartoon feature created by Disney alumnus Jerry Rees (who also worked on the under-rated *Ton*). It's the story of five Hermesque (as in Pee Wee) home appliances — with names like Lampy, Blenky (an electric blanket), and Kirby the vacuum cleaner — who have been abandoned in an isolated cabin. Together they venture thousands of miles in search of their owner. Each appliance is a fully-developed character, displaying sentiments and personalities that make this much more than a children's story. "I exited the theater in rapture... *The Brave Little Toaster* is the best animated feature in years. I say that without hesitation." — S.P. Leive, *Animation Magazine* Color. 35mm. 90 mins. 1988.

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ESTA NOCHE IS A DECADE OLD

- by Nancy Netherland

Permissiveness and "anything goes" are characteristics typically attributed to the Castro of the late seventies. However, according to Manuel (co-owner of Esta Noche), the Castro club scene was not exactly permissive when it came to Hispanic men.

Typically, Manuel and his friends were required to present three pieces of ID at the door and monitored for any "misbehavior". For Hispanic men a spilled drink or dropped glass were grounds for removal from the same clubs that enjoyed a national reputation for letting anything go. According to Manuel "they were looking for any excuse to eighty-six us"; so much for tolerance.

Born out of necessity, Esta Noche was established in 1979 as the first gay Latino bar in San Francisco. Esta Noche, owned and operated by Anthony and Manuel, will celebrate its 10th anniversary on September 22nd. Located on 16th Street between Mission and Valencia, Esta Noche is an established part of the Mission District, as well as a welcomed addition to its regulars. Esta Noche occupies the space once known for the Club Durango; a "rough and nasty bar" according to long termers.

Esta Noche is a club established especially for and run by gay Latin men.

The club is well known for its amazingly beautiful drag queens, popular live shows, and relaxed atmosphere. As one of my Polk Gulch (read Tenderloin) friends says, "you can't beat Esta Noche

number of patrons have moved into the area because of Esta Noche. Regardless, Esta Noche is popular and enjoys a steady business, though Manuel remarks that "mineral waters and sodas

when he and Manuel met in 1981; a year later, he offered Manuel a job with the club. What started as a drink after the opera has become a way of life for Manuel who was surprised and enchanted to find that a gay Latino bar existed in San Francisco. After working for two years at Esta Noche, Manuel and Anthony became co-owners; both men work full time at running the club.

It was the success of Esta Noche that spawned Sophia's in 1984; an unsuccessful Lesbian bar that Manuel and Anthony opened. Opened with the idea of catering to lipstick lesbians or "nice dressers", the club had a short and temptuous existence. Manuel made assurances that Sophia's will not be reborn, he and Anthony are sticking with Esta Noche and have just signed a five year lease.

Esta Noche, like many clubs on 16th Street, is being affected by the increasing crime rate in that area. Drugs and violence have made an impact on the patronage of Esta Noche. However, Manuel hopes that increasing police attention to the area will assist in curtailing criminal activities. In the meantime, Esta Noche has security and will do all it can to maintain a clean club. Though the crime in the area is a problem, other businesses in the area bring business to Esta Noche.



Esta Noche's 10th Anniversary Celebration photo by Collette Sweeney

for a drink and entertainment after a burrito..." However, according to Manuel, the majority of the patrons of Esta Noche are locals from the neighborhood. In fact, Manuel believes (based on the club's mailing list) that a

are gaining in popularity."

Manuel, originally from Salvador, was working in banking when he first came across Esta Noche and Anthony, his partner to be. Anthony was working for an airline and running Esta Noche

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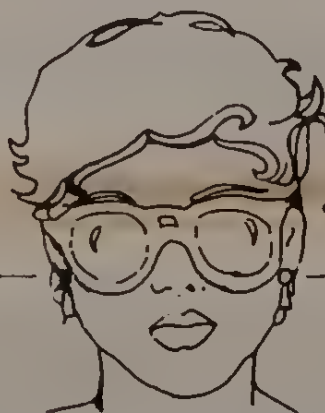
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BALLOT

Continued from Page 1

ers. They are supported on humanitarian grounds, but some taxpayers' advocates say they would cost too much money. AIDS is implied, but cautiously grouped with other afflictions like cancer and Alzheimer's disease. Proposition U, a policy measure putting the City on record of supporting community-based AIDS research also has little opposition.

Which brings us to the first of the so-called Big Six... the repeal of the unanimous decision of the Board of Supervisors to allow unmarried "domestic partners" some of the same benefits as married City workers.

While the measure doesn't specify sexual preference it has, in the wake of California propositions 6, 64, 69, 96 and 102, turned into a referendum on San Francisco's gay community.

Co-author Rabbi Leib Feldman states that the ordinance "would forbid us to officially recognize any special merit in the traditional solemn wedlock of man and woman over the unnatural coupling of male and male", calls the City a "national disgrace" and predicts that it will become "unsuitable to raise children". It has also been condemned by Protestant and Catholic fundamentalists who warn it will "undermine traditional family values and erode the cornerstone of a civilized, nurturing society."

Proposition S is supported by the Mayor, all Supervisors and virtually all politicians as well as a coalition of civil rights advocates and some religious ministries.

But in a low-turnout election, financial considerations may make this a close one. Controller Sam Yockey ruled that it would not affect the immediate cost of government, but that "costs could increase as a result of subsequent actions by City boards and commissions in an amount presently indeterminate and possibly substantial." Taxpayers point to the example the camel which poked its nose under the tent, then its head, its shoulders and finally the whole camel was in the tent.

The initial charges of homophobia, however, seem to have scared off the opponent most feared by Prop. S... the insurance industry with its oodles of money. Then again, after last November's auto insurance disaster, the entrance of big insurance companies into this fray could actually help the cause of domestic partners.

Tax increases are always controversial and Propositions B and Q have already generated public concern.

Proposition B imposes a half cent sales tax for transportation, and is supported by many environmental groups. Its chances of passage are fairly good as local merchants, the group most affected next to consumers, are disgruntled but have not mounted an opposition campaign. Like several other issues, opponents consist of anti-tax conservatives and liberals who favor taxing gasoline or other luxury items. "A regressive sales tax takes a larger percentage of the total income from lower-income

groups," states Joel Ventresca, past president of the Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council.

Propositions Q and R were put on the ballot by the Coalition for Better Housing, a lobby for big landlords. In another curious development, Proposition Q is opposed by a number of landlords of smaller buildings. The November issue of the North Mission News treats these in detail.

Which leaves only the tumultuous China Basin ballpark (Prop. P) and its alternative, Prop. V. Again, this has provoked an interesting breakdown of support and opposition with a mixture of radical political organizations, environmental groups and conservative Republicans opposed to the deal.

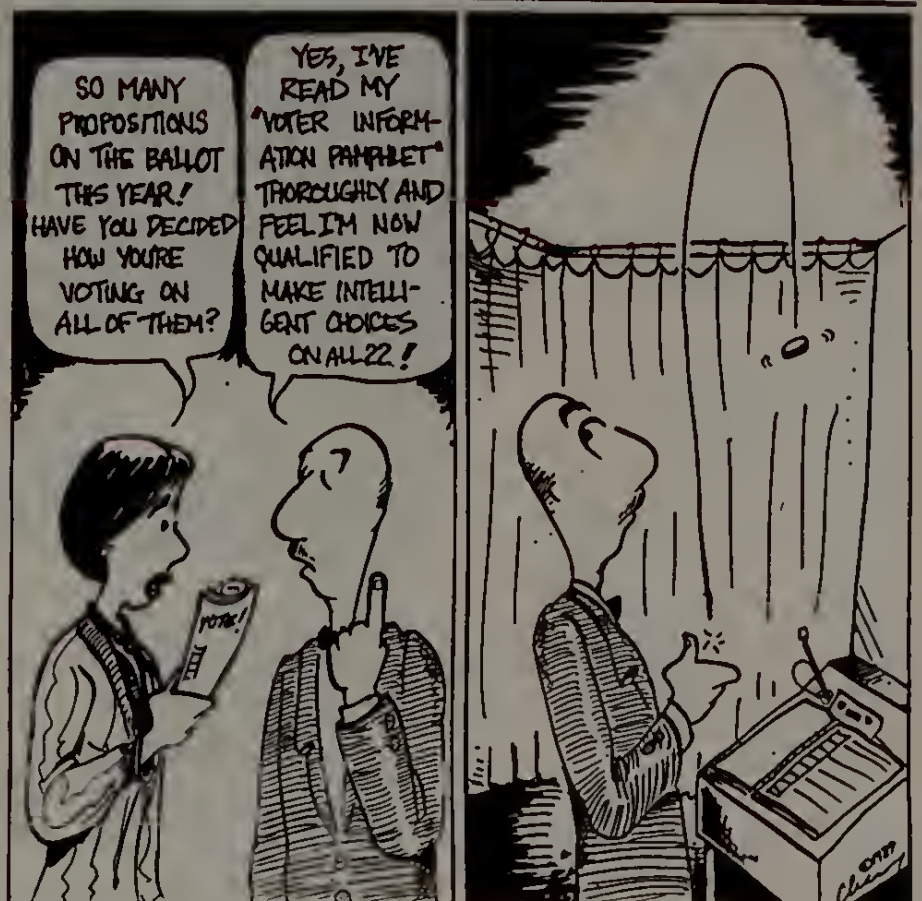
The Mission-based petitioner's co-op Grassroots contributed 18 arguments against the stadium to the Voter's Handbook which make, far and away, the year's best reading. Noting that the name of the ballpark is up for bid, they raise the prospect of an "Exxon Field" or "Coors Coliseum". And in recognition of polls that show men favoring the ballpark with women against, they warn that "The only women who get any significant piece of the profit will be the strippers in the luxury boxes."

Pro-ballpark forces emphasize that the deal is better than that on the Mission Bay land two years ago or that being negotiated by the Raiders in either Oakland or Sacramento and that baseball is of special benefit to working people and kids. During a meeting with the City's neighborhood newspapers, Mayor Agnos pulled out many charts and graphs with lines and figures to explain that the costs of parking, transit and other infrastructure improvements would have to be paid anyway to accommodate development of Mission Bay.

Proposition V for improving Candlestick is supported mainly by those opposed to P although some feel it should be passed as a backup if Giants' owner Bob Lurie changes his mind about moving. Having insisted so strenuously that he'd leave if Prop P failed, Proposition V may be an exercise in futility but it would leave the door open if either the City or another private group was able to purchase the team or if another use (like an amusement park or a team from the Japanese league) could be found for Candlestick.

But in the end it is likely to be emotional, not strategic, factors that decide the fate of the China Basin ballpark. If Bob Knepper makes another anti-women crack, it's bye bye baseball. If the Giants beat the A's in the bottom of the ninth of the seventh game, Prop. P should pass in a landslide.

This is perhaps the only instance of money, public relations and other electoral obscuring factors giving way to the measurable merits of the folks at issue. Would that other candidates and issues be forced to compete in a World Series that would lay their flaws and benefits on line for everyone to see!



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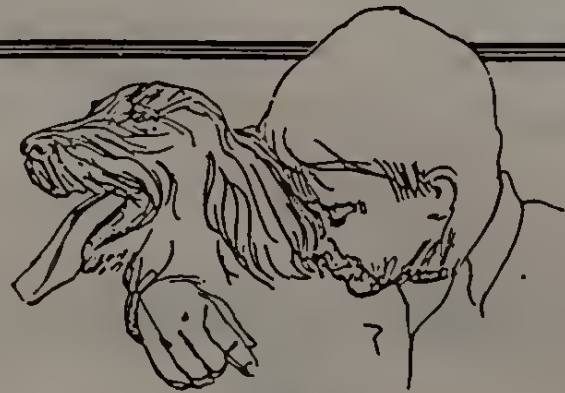
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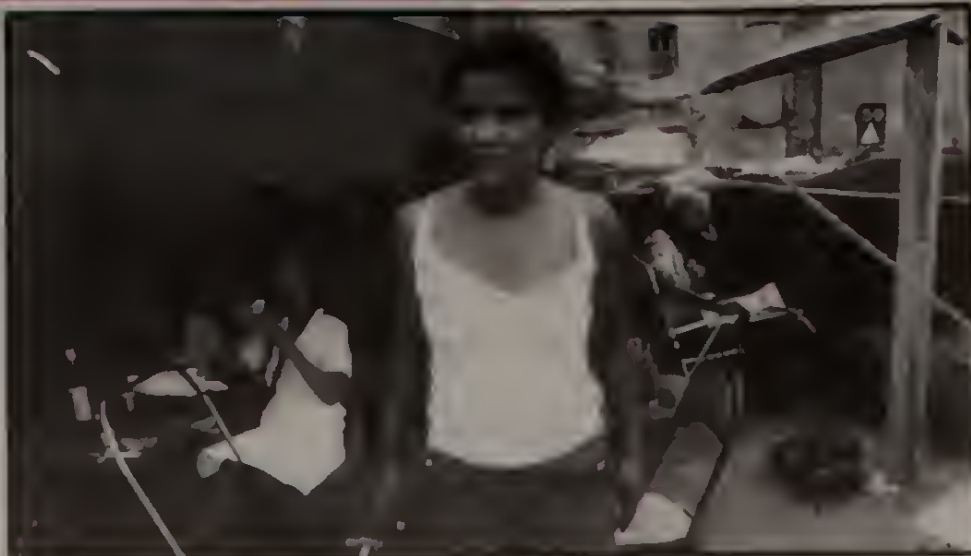
11-7 Mon-Thurs, Sat 11-9 Fridays, Sunday 11-5

OVER THE CITY by The Pigeon

Dumping on the competition: Well, Herb Caen drew first blood. Another malicious column (9/3) ending with an incitement to violence that would get the old fart Perry Stoned if he'd tried it against two-legged creatures.

"We should import peregrine falcons and install them on rooftops around Union Square and other places... let's get those peregrine falcons to chase a few thousand pigeons over to the Marriott's glass top." Are you listening CUAV? There should be a Community United Against Pigeon Abuse and long may it initial over the Herb Cuanes of the world.

In the first place the Marriott... time it must be said... is a credit to San Francisco's skyline and missing only one thing... a laser installation at the fulcrum of all those glass parachutes. Two: anal retentive peregrine falcons, like the ossified society creeps that clutter up the pages of the Exorcicle are incapable of breeding. The DDT in the rainwater they drink turns their eggs to glass. Pigeons drink dead orange soda, half empty Coronas in SOMA gutters and cat vomit. They watch splatter videos in the midnight windows of Union Street electronic palaces and don't pay rent.



Homeless children profiled in "Inside Life Outside" playing with "The Life and Times of Floyd Andrews" October 14th at ATA Gallery.

Not that it has been an easy month for the morning columnist, with the nasty radio commercials from the Other Paper and Enrico Banducci having to move out to Park Merced. Hey, some of the best damn people in the City live out there (if they're not when they move in, coping with landlady Leona Helmsley either makes them so or moves them on).

And if the Exorcicle wants to create a controversy within itself the morning rag could go Communist, the afternoon Anarchist. But no... it's only confused. Case in point: 9/25 issue where columnist William Safire (talk about crap from the skies!) states that tax cuts for rich junk bond artists have enabled us to "grow out of the deficit". In the financial section that same day, those alarmists over at the International Monetary Fund blame America's "deteriorating trade outlook in large part on the huge U.S. budget deficit" and that the 1988 deficit of \$125 billion would rise to \$139B in 1990.

This is known as "Three Faces of Eve Journalism" and if the print media were regulated by even the dishwasher standards

of broadcasters the Exorcicle would have its license revoked and be parceled out to Easy Rider, Re-Search, the Washington Times and the Anderson Valley Advertiser.

But not Time. Time kills. The Louisville mass murderer kept a copy of Time's issue on mass murderers (no doubt for masturbatory murderous inspiration). Repeat: Time Kills! Time Kills! Calling Tipper Gore!

Before we fly away from the Exorsickills, one of their Help Wanted ads crossed an important frontier on September 24th. USAir out of San Jose has instituted a \$10 "processing fee" for job applicants. A [censored] job application fee!

Nothing even approaching this night soil poked its head up in the Reagan administration. Anybody anywhere who thinks that things have gotten so bad they can't get worse... think again. Ten bucks to apply for a job. What next? Twenty bucks for the privilege of being interviewed, piss-tested and humiliated by Bank of America. Fifty bucks for a bike messenger interview. \$100 for ten minutes of a pimply fast food

assistant manager's time... sorry Bird, you're over/underqualified.

Yeah it's a scary world out there so get an early start on Halloween at ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia which splatters flying saucers, Satanists and telcvanglists and more over your field of vision 8 PM October 28th. Another good show on homelessness and urban squatting October 14th includes Pad McGlaughlin's The Life and Times of Floyd Andrews, a biopic of one of the Mission's most beloved slumlords.

"Midnight Caller" geography lesson of the month: puts the flesh palaces of Broadway on North Point near Pier 39. Real Frisco flavor folks... goes with the Ferlinghetti-spouting serial killer (did they get releases) and a black Mayor who brings to mind a certain Sacramento regular. Congrats to the embattled Hunters Point Shipyard artists on their Sixth Annual Open Studio (Oct. 21-22) to Esta Noche and to the folks at Francis of Assisi on Guerrero on their respective Tenth Anniversaries last month.

AND IT WAS 20 YEARS AGO TODAY that the Big Mac was introduced. Raise those burgers high, high, high, high. Columbia University (10/4), Macy's (10/11), the New York Draft Board (10/12), the Ft. Dix stockade (10/17) and Amchitka Island (10/30) all got bombed. The top two songs all [censored] month were "Sugar Sugar" and "Hey Little Woman" and Spiro Agnew made his famous speech about the "effete corps of impudent snobs" and went to New Orleans where he tripped over a microphone cord and knocked a bowl of pudding over an old lady's dress, after which the gallant veep "wiped her bodice off with his white silk handkerchief".

And Richard Nixon, speaking at Disneyland, announced the abandonment of Operation Interecept as a dismal failure. The more things change, the more things stay the same...

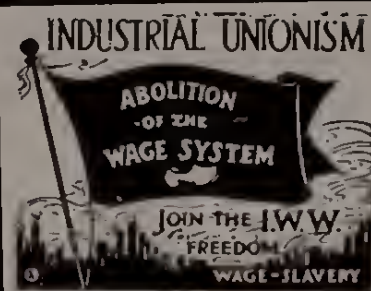
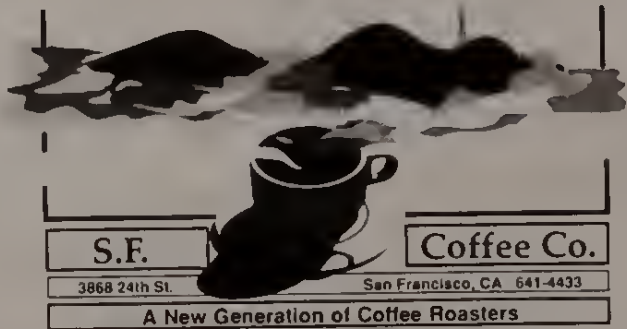
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THE COP ON THE BEAT IS BACK

- by Mayor Art Agnos

A team of police officers is now walking the beat in the Mission District, paying personal visits to addresses with a history of multiple police calls, touching base with merchants and walking around the neighborhood getting to know people.

Their purpose is to make contact with residents of the neighborhood and to get people involved in keeping track of what goes on in their own districts.

The new approach, which is modeled on the successful Community Patrol Officer Program being used in some areas of New York, is starting as a pilot project. If it works as well as we hope, the beat team model will be implemented in neighborhoods.

Putting more Police beat officers on patrol in the neighborhoods so they can interact with merchants and residents is one of the goals of this administration. I talked about that approach when I was running for Mayor, and was disappointed when the deficit I inherited made it impossible to implement new police initiatives in my first year in office.

This fiscal year we are finally able to implement the beat patrol idea as a pilot project to assess its effectiveness in our modern urban environment.

It's been several decades since the "cop on the beat" was a familiar face in City neighborhoods. As our society became more mobile and auto driven, police officers, too, found it necessary to increase their speed and mechanize their operations.

For years, vestiges of the beat system remained in the form of so-called foot patrols, an officer or two who walked a linear path up and down neighborhood commercial strips. Merchants, shoppers and politicians liked the foot patrols, but they proved to be a

costly means of providing police visibility and did not seem to have any measurable impact on preventing crime.

Before I assumed office the foot patrols had been phased out entirely because of fiscal constraints. The form of beat patrols now under way in the Mission District is different from what we had seen in the recent past.

Five officers and a sergeant have been assigned to the Mission beat, which covers the area bounded by Valencia, Harrison, 15th and 25th Streets. Each officer will be responsible for four square blocks; knocking on doors, talking to residents, initiating interest in community watch programs and otherwise getting to know potential trouble spots.

The idea is to make the police officer on the beat a familiar face once again and to get people involved in keeping their own neighborhoods safe.

In recent months we have moved forward with a master plan for affordable housing, which received favorable response at public hearings and is now being refined into an implementation plan. Our 1989-90 Homeless Action plan will provide housing opportunities for more than 3,300 individuals. We have successfully competed for Federal grants for drug treatment and public housing assistance.

But our research shows that all of these positive steps won't be enough to clear our streets of homeless and crack dealers unless there is a strong component of community involvement. One of the key goals of the community officer patrol program is to strengthen and encourage that community involvement.

THE MODERNIZATION OF HOMELESSNESS



- by J. B. Saunders

What is now normally described as homelessness is, in reality, a conspiracy of silence: a secret agreement to keep silent about the true nature of homelessness in order to promote and protect the selfish interest of those "on the top". The situation of homeless people in the United States is embarrassingly indicative of our failure to effectively deal with the issues of: racism, sexism and discrimination against socio-economically disadvantaged people.

African-Americans, third-world immigrants, the elderly, youth and other members of the so-called underclass make up the bulk of the homeless population in America. Single women with children (families) rank first as the fastest growing segment of those being deprived of housing. And as money continues to be redirected away from programs serving the poor and downtrodden, and into the construction of more prisons and the arms build-up, people with AIDS, ARC and other debilitating disabilities are dying on the streets in record numbers: homeless and alone.

The traditional/typical profile of the homeless person (a white male alcoholic hopping trains across the country) has undergone a drastic transformation during the last two decades. As a result, homelessness as a social problem must be re-evaluated and redefined if we are to formulate realistic solutions that are geared towards stabilizing peoples' lives.

The definition of "modern-day homelessness" should not be limited to only those without homes, but should also include people who live in dirty, rat-infested, dilapidated, over-crowded "slum- dwellings." Single Room Occupancy hotels, with no bathrooms and limited hygienic facilities, are not fit for

human habitation. Yet, a program in San Francisco is underway identifying these hotels as a "permanent" housing program; the Modified Payments Program uses the same substandard SRO's as the City's Homeless Hotline System. How is it that government-sponsored transitional hotel rooms become classified as permanent housing, and by what/whose standards?

The Subsidization of Homelessness

The City of San Francisco, with the assistance of a few private individuals, saw it in their interest to aid and promote a privately owned chain of run-down residential properties while, at the same time, assisting an enterprise deemed advantageous to the public (providing temporary shelter for the City's growing homeless population). This Band-Air approach to easing what was, at that time, thought to be a short-term problem is now being developed as the long-term solution.

This is going from the sublime to the ridiculous. And the people who lose out in this deal are the homeless people who the program is supposed to help. The truth is: such programs aren't really designed to help stabilize the lives of those without housing, but rather to assist homeless people in subsisting, basic survival.

Contrary to popular belief, the majority of homeless people want to go beyond a mere subsistence existence. Homeless people want to live and participate in the American dream: Homeless people would like to own homes one day and gain meaningful employment. Homeless people want dignity and respect, just like you. The majority of homeless people are not satisfied with the situation they find themselves in, and only want an opportunity to get their lives together.


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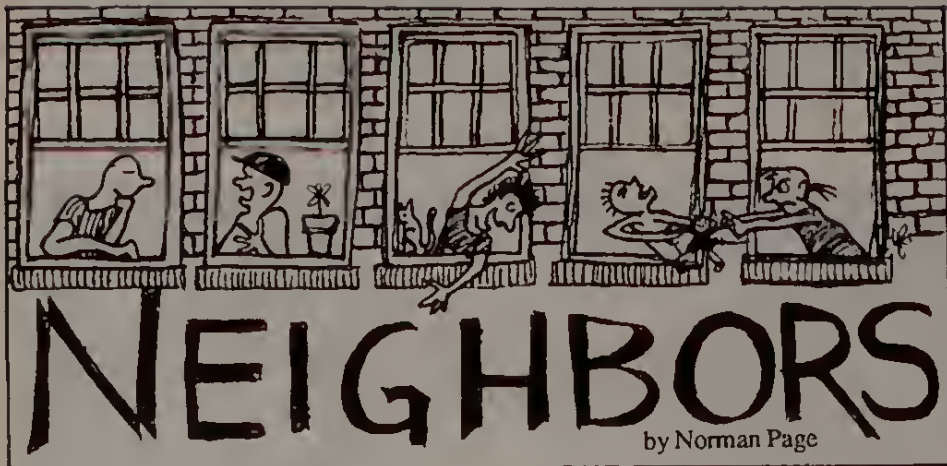
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Up on 24th Street, in the neighborhood known as "Baja Noe Valley" to YoHo chasing realtors ("YoHo": n., slang; Yuppie Bohemian, crunchy/chewy and gainfully employed) and at the end of a small series of quaint, politically and anatomically correct boutiques, is located the neatly narrow Uptown News and its respectfully irreverent owner, Mr. Luins Williams.

"Yeah, so what. Why should I go up there?" Well, listen up chuckle head, Luins has got the only news/magazine stand from this side of Haight Street all the way to SF International. Secondly, he's in the midst of increasing his stock to include 1,000 titles! And that makes my man Luins and the Uptown News the largest distributor in the City. So if it's the latest fashion magazine, the newest look at computers, travel, sailing, news or the trendiest, way hippest tabloid from SF, LA or NYC then Luins has got it. So let's meet the man, shall we? Up close and personal like.

Luins has enjoyed a string of successes here in the City - and elsewhere - the past few years. After operating a curious little place over on Fillmore at Bush, Luins got a big break when I. Magnin offered him a stand in a special promo space. Utilizing his experience as an interior designer, Luins made quite a splash with the media and Union-Square cognoscenti... This led to further successes at SF International, the new Charles Schwab headquarters downtown and then bigger and better opportunities at the new Nashville (TN) airport.

Things were really rocking for Luins. Until, that is, some heavy duty legal hassles set him back a bundle. It seems SF International was having sticky pedestrian problems and wanted to halt the sales of chewing gum at the Airport. Well hooold on there a second. Uh-uh, no way says Luins. So he uses graphs and sales charts and all other means he deemed necessary to retain the gum sales, which represented an important percentage of his sales. Well, he won that battle fairly handily and, in fact, came

out looking good to the top brass business suits.

But then a major distributor decided he would just stop deliveries. Yank 'em, cut 'n dry. "You can't refuse cash sales," Luins argued. "Halting the free flow of media goes against the First Amendment." So Luins went to City Hall to make his point. But by the time his voice had been heard, Luins had already lost "a ton o' dough". All the stands had to be sold in order to keep the shirt on his back.

So now Luins is down to the 24th Street stand he purchased in 1987 from former owner, Duncan Gwynn. It is here at Uptown News that Luins is blazing his way onto the comeback trail with a style and grace which are rather difficult to come by in this town.

Stop in soon and check out all the new titles. But if it's the Chron you want, better bring change 'cause Luins doesn't make any. Nada. Nyet. Why should he? Those boxes aren't his. Uptown News, 3920 24th Street. Free James Brown!

It happened in the Mission:

Bicyclist gets cut off by woman taking a right-hand turn onto Guerrero, putting on her blinker at the last possible moment and swerving quickly from the left side of her lane. As the felled bicyclist looks up to see what the devil hit him, a SF police officer jumps into action from his serene, coffee-sipping position in the bus lane.

"Do you see what you just did? I saw you flying down the hill like that!" he screams at said biker who's looking awfully hurt and puzzled.

"You alright lady?"

Biker jumps back onto his bike, his knee ripped a bit.

"Yeah, right," he is heard muttering under his breath.

Please, share the road with a cyclist. Thanks.

Photo by M.P.R. Howard



(l to r) Amber Woodward, Rosana Quintana, Enrico Lopez and Marta

This month's recipient of the increasingly sought after Model Business Award goes to Cuba Restaurant and its new owner, Enrico Lopez. After 23 years of relative anonymity at the corner of 16th and South Van Ness, Enrico took over ownership six months ago with strict plans to retain the Cuban/Spanish "flavor" of the restaurant while striving to improve the quality and freshness of the menu.

Enrico has been highly praised for his efforts in "re-beautifying" the area there at the entrance to his restaurant: Enrico has put in some lovely green trees and plants and has planted a few boxes of rather colorful flowers out front. All this in order to give Cuba Restaurant a welcome facelift. Stay tuned next issue as I shall dive headlong into some serious Cuban culinary delights. Asta baby.

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NEIGHBORHOOD BEAT



OAKWOOD & 19th GREENING

On Sept. 23, a co-operative effort of the Friends of the Urban Forest and a group of Mission residents known as the 19th Street/Oakwood Street Neighborhood Group planted several trees along the 19th Street drive-up to the Dolores Park entrance.

The neighborhood group that formed to deal with the increase in drug traffic coming and going to the park decided to deal with making their little section of the Mission a little more pleasing, first with the formation of a broom brigade and later with a planting

of trees.

Tishe Kenny, a group member who was instrumental in getting the City's cooperation as well as the assistance of the Friends of the Urban Forest, stated that this is just one more step in the residents regaining their neighborhoods from the drug element which infects much of the City.

As San Francisco appears to do less for its citizens, here is an example of residents taking charge of their neighborhood and trying to make a better life for all concerned. by M.P.R. Howard

UPDATE ON MISSION FIRES

Police and fire anti-arson investigators are actively hunting suspects believed to have started a fire in an apartment complex in the 1900 block of Folsom near 15th Street. This is the fourth major fire to have occurred in the summer of 1989.

Investigator Ramsey of the Police Department's Arson Task Force declared that suspects had been identified. Police and fire officials do not release information on pending investigations, and Ramsey could only state that the News would be informed "as soon as I can get ahold of the people involved."

Mission residents have grown con-

cerned about the rise in fires over the summer. Incidents at 542 Valencia and 3570 20th Street were determined "accidental" in origin; the former probably due to smoking in bed and the latter, according to Officer Kusich of the Arson Task Force, to a vehicle fire in an enclosed garage.

Kusich warned against carelessness in auto repairs, particularly when working near an open flame such as the pilot light of a water heater. There are over 200 vehicle fires in San Francisco every year, and "we've had fatalities in some of these fires", Kusich declared.

24th STREET NEWS

The 24th Street Commercial Corridor will soon undergo impressive streetscape and storefront improvements brought on by public and private interests. This Corridor stretches across 24th Street between Valencia and Utah Streets.

The 24th Street Revitalization Committee, chaired by Supervisor Jim Gonzalez, and coordinated by the Mission Economic Development Association (MEDA), includes the active participation and support of the Mission Economic Cultural Association (MECA), the 24th Street Merchants Association, the Mayor's Office of Busi-

ness and Economic Development (MOBED), neighborhood residents and many nonprofit agencies.

The Mission neighborhood community is steadily striving towards implementing a revitalization program which includes both short and long term goals. This work is a major attempt to implement local planning strategies and objectives and build on the record of the many years of community planning by various individuals and groups.

For further information on the 24th Street Revitalization Committee, contact Ricardo Noguera at MEDA (282-3334).

MISSION JAIL?

Confusion still swirls over the fate of a proposed work-furlough facility (jail) in the Construction Center on Mission Street beneath the freeway.

The surprise proposal ran into a firestorm of opposition before a joint committee of the Board of Supervisors and by the end of that hearing was generally assumed to be **The Little Jail That Died.**

But, according to Roberto Barragan of the Mission Economic Development Association (MEDA), the jail may actually be

like a Mission equivalent of Hollywood's indestructible maniacs like Jason, Freddy Krueger or the zombies out of one of George Romero's epics.

And neighbors have about the same regard for the facility as they would have for the kind of asylum from which these killers routinely break out.

The Construction Center is in deep financial trouble and the owners are looking for a buyer. Enter Sheriff Michael Hennessey who raised the possibility of using

the big red building as a work-furlough facility.

Barragan contended not only would this use be a disaster for the neighborhood, but "the project has higher economic uses other than as a work-furlough site."

Most supervisors seemed concerned with the proposal except for former Sheriff Richard Hongisto who maintained that neighborhoods don't have problems with work-furlough sites.

But only a few months ago, an inmate of a work furlough facility on Fifth Street that South of Market residents were unaware of attacked two women operating a small business around the corner, nearly scalping one with an axe.

Residents and businesspeople of the area around 14th street, consequently, feel that the facility looks like a jail, walks like a jail and talks like a jail and that they don't want any part of it. Sheriff Hennessey did not return the News' calls by press time.

Supervisor Jim Gonzalez, a jail opponent who chaired the hearings waved his cross, his garlic and his wooden stake at the proposal and promised "It's not coming back!"

But Barragan is worried that the City Property Manager could still buy the building without a designated use and again try to sneak it by the neighborhood without a public hearing.

He calls the area "the Gateway to the Mission" and has proposed that the building be used as a commercial "mercado". Although largely vacant, the INS has a two to three year lease on part of first floor; a rather chilling obstacle to any Latino-oriented venture.

A jail on the upper floors raises the ghoulish prospect of a one-stop alien removal center where the undocumented, rounded up in sweeps, could disappear through a trap door into the hands of the Migra and be on the bus back to the death squads of El Salvador and Guatemala within hours.

Sheriff Hennessey informed the News that the Construction Center site would remain under consideration but had obviously sunk a little lower due to neighborhood opposition. He noted that the top priorities now included "vacant office space in the Financial District".

But he declined to rule out another bid for the Construction Center, pointing out that the location, like so many others in the Mission, Tenderloin and South of Market is "central". He also said that the SOMA axe-maniac's work-furlough house was a Federal, not City venture.

by Brian Doohan

CLUB ELEGANTE RAID

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors, by a unanimous vote, sent a clear message that incidents such as the raid on Club Elegante (NMN-August) will no longer be tolerated.

There, San Francisco Police Officers, called in to aid the State Alcoholic Beverages agents in rounding up underaged drinkers found themselves accompanying Federal Immigration authorities in rounding up undocumented aliens for deportation to which Latino activists have called "certain death in Guatemala and El Salvador."

Supervisor Jim Gonzalez condemned the raids, defending Club

Elegante as a place where Hispanics, predominantly of Central American origin, "kind of let the week's worries go away and spend some time with friends."

But he also praised Police Chief Frank Jordan for agreeing to a Memorandum of Understanding negotiated by Mayoral aide and former Police Commissioner Gayle Orr-Smith.

The matter proceeded to the Supervisors' Human Services Committee on Sept. 28 where a resolution strengthening San Francisco's sanctuary law was introduced and passed out to the full Board, which will vote on the matter October 10th.

SYCAMORE ST. NEWS - by Robert Cole

Summer's all over and the kids of Sycamore Street are back in school. The traffic has slowed down, the noise has subsided and there's that quiet feeling of autumn in the air. We've had a lot of turn-over on Sycamore Street this summer. Old friends moving away and new friends coming to join our experiment in neighborhood cooperation. We wish a fond farewell to those who have left, and we extend a hand of friendship to those who have arrived.

The problems with trash, winos and vagrants were considerably reduced this summer thanks to the efforts of everyone who lives on Sycamore Street. Just a little cooperation went a very long way to make this summer one of the best in recent memory. We kept the street clean; we kept the winos on the move; and we had a lot fewer problems with the streetpeople. Here's a hearty "thank you" to everyone on Sycamore Street for doing their fair share to make life a little better.

By working together, we can bring a spirit of opportunity to our neighborhood. We live in the sunniest and most colorful part of San Francisco. Little by little we can help each other find peace and safety in our neighborhood.

Everyone in the neighborhood is

urged to continue boycotting Mission Market at 2128 Mission (between Sycamore and Clarion) because they continue to sell liquor and wine to people who are hopelessly drunk. Not only is this against the law, but it still is the major source of wine problems in our neighborhood. Although much has been done to solve this conflict, we still have a long way to go. While the Patel Brothers still refuse to help clean up their act, the valiant efforts of Ayako Sato at Country Station Sushi and Henry Low at King Lung Meat Market deserve the highest praise and much gratitude.

Because of the continuing tenant/landlord problems at the Mascarnas Building (51-61 Sycamore), the Sycamore Neighbors Group has joined the Tenants' Union. Call 282-6622 and tell them you're a member of the Sycamore Neighbors Group and explain your problem. For further help, call Robert Cole (that's me) at 558-8004.

Ellen Bateman, one of the Sycamore Neighbors, is working with the Friends of the Urban Forest to get some trees planted on Sycamore Street. If you would like to help her with this project, call her at 621-2602. Witness the greening of Sycamore Street!



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by Dr. Misha Cohen

COMPOUND Q UPDATE

On Wednesday, September 20, a group of 200 people listened intently to a presentation at the Women's Building sponsored by Project Inform. The subject was Compound Q — a potential AIDS drug — and its effectiveness in recent "underground" clinical trials.

Project Inform, along with Dr. Alan Levin and Dr. Larry Waites, conducted a preliminary clinical trial with Compound Q, a substance derived from the Trichosanthes root, a Chinese herb. It is also known as Trichosanthin. The impetus for the study came from the knowledge of the slowness in looking at new substances for the treatment of HIV infection by established groups. While there is a clinical trial in progress at San Francisco General, it is a very slow procedure, guaranteed to take a

very long time to lead to drug approval if, in fact, Compound Q, is effective. The purpose of the Project Inform trial was to give treatment quickly and monitor the treatment in a safe way to see more quickly if the substance is effective. Surprisingly, the FDA has been cooperative in this effort.

Martin Delaney, the co-director of Project Inform, made it very clear that this was not a drug study but a monitored treatment program. Compound Q has been known for 20 years within China as a drug which is an abortifacient (induces an abortion). More recently, this drug has been developed by a company called Genelabs. However, this product is still somewhat behind the Chinese drug in its molecular stability as it becomes unstable quickly on the shelf, having a much shorter

shelf-life than the Chinese substance.

Dr. Levin made it very clear that Compound Q is a toxic drug, as discovered in the program. Compound Q may cause severe changes in consciousness, coma and even death in those who are intolerant. He said that all people who use Compound Q should have an M.R.I. prior to its use to see if there is any problem with the white matter in the brain prior to use. There may also be profound, serious side-effects in others as well.

He did not recommend its usage without close supervision of a physician. In fact, it is possible that hospitalization may be required for injection in some cases. Dr. Levin and the other speakers stated many times that they felt no one should use Compound Q except as a last resort due to its toxicity and asked people not to use it until the studies were completed and more information was known. Compound Q is a chemotherapeutic agent, not a mild drug. This was stressed over and over again throughout the evening.

Martin Delaney presented results of the treatment program. The overwhelming results were positive in terms of effect on the immune system. The results excluded groups from Florida, New York and Los Angeles for various technical reasons. The results given were the results from about 15 members of the San Francisco study group. The group divided into people who began with under 100 T-4 cells and groups with higher T-4 cells. Both groups did

quite well. Two people within the group died, apparently unrelated to the injection of Compound Q. Three doses of the substance were generally given over a three week period, and the study time was for two months. The results also showed the P-24 Antigen level, a test of actual viral activity in the blood. The P-24 Antigen level dropped markedly in several of the participants with a concurrent rise in T-4 cells.

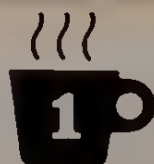
The difference between Compound Q and such substances as AZT and DDI is that Compound Q kills the infected macrophages, not free-floating virus. AZT and DDI kill free-floating virus, not the infected macrophages. The suggestion was that to do a good job of treatment would require a multifaceted approach, including more than one substance, at least one of each with each kind of approach.

These substances, from my point of view, need not all be toxic. We look to the use of other substances, including Chinese herbs, to be effective as part of the total approach to HIV infection.

However, it is clear that pressure on the agencies that approve drugs and other substances must be stepped up in order to more quickly develop drugs that will be able to treat HIV infection. These cannot just be trials by drug companies which can afford expensive trials in order to sell expensive drugs trials in order to sell expensive drugs.

I commend Project Inform, Drs. Levin and Waites •

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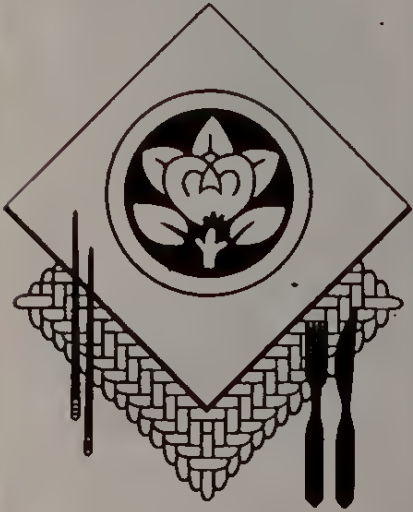
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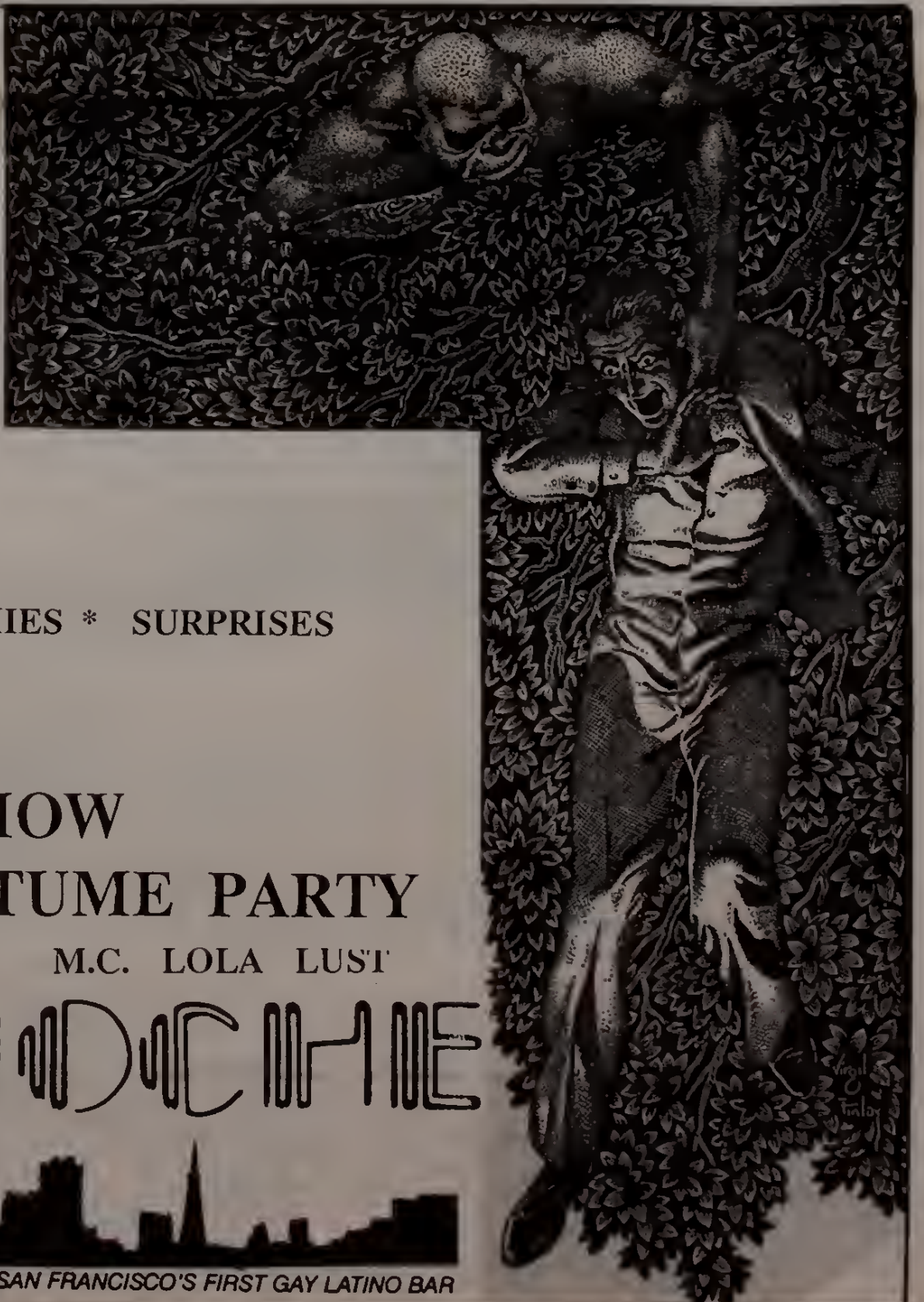
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THE HYENA MENACE

- by Nick Hornsfelt

People ask me, "Hey Nick! How's it go'n?" I reply "Hey (insert your name here), life's a cabaret," which usually elicits the response "Great!". Obviously most people missed the point of the Minelli movie, otherwise they would understand that comparing life to a cabaret is, in fact, saying life is a cheap, tawdry exercise in self-delusion headed for a bad ending. But, then, that's why we're here, to explain all of that to you.

In the Mission, there is really only one man whose name is synonymous with cabaret and that man is Hank Pellisier (pronounced like brassiere with the bra ripped off and a Pell stuck on except that he's changed his name to Hank Hyena anyhow because no one can spell or pronounce Pellisier so forget the whole thing).

Messier Pellisier/Hyena is the driving force, the essence, Hank is "Hycna Cabaret", "the gorilla theater that would not die". Hank and I met the other evening to slam-dunk some Coronas and talk art. The following is what I can remember of that evening.

NH:First, because I gotta do this stuff; What is Hyena Cabaret - Miracles of the Flesh?"

HH:This time, I'm doing a multi media solo show - I'm moving away from the animal format - too many animal rights activists keep contacting me for help.

I like the Hyena because it's the most disgusting of animals - well, second anyway. Personally, I'm looking for a way to make enough money never to have to work again.

NH:How many shows have you done now?

HH:Five full scale and two 30 minute shows. My last show was "Sex Pig and Other Tales". During one piece, "Genitals of Guatemala", one guy stood up and shouted "Where's Jesse Helms when you need him?" It was great! Sex sells.

NH:The last time we talked (about a year ago) I thought the last "Hyena Cabaret" was going to be the "last Hycna Cabaret" because you were out of funds. Did one of your snotty, rich relatives die or something?

HH:Well, actually my grandmother did die, but thanks for asking. This show is being funded by "New Langton Arts Interdisciplinary Grants". They

have a gallery in SOMA; they're one of the oldest alternative art organizations in the City and I love those people for giving me the money.

NH:Interdisciplinary, South of Market? That sounds unusual. So, Hank, what goodies have you got for us this trip around the old savannah?

HH:(Pulling out slides) Well, "The Reluctant Cock" is about a rooster who'd rather sit on eggs.

"Digging for the Nostril Gold" is about a guy who actually finds gold up his nose and kills himself digging. One moral of this story is "Better let your boogers linger than kill yourself with a careless finger."

"Barbi's Clitoris" is basically an oral sex piece with a happy ending when, after three days, Ken (a premature ejaculator) finally finds Barbi's "button of love".

There is also "Fetus Messiah" where an outraged, returning Jesus is aborted and flies around the hospital killing the staff.

NH:(Remember folks, I'm looking at slides of this stuff. He's right, excitement is the word!)

Finally, Hank Hyena, I have to ask you, in a society that has given us Ron and Nancy, Jim and Tammy and Mick Jagger, yet once again (thanks a lot); in a neighborhood abounding in black-clad, pierced and dyed nihilists so hip they make Sylvia Plath look like a cheerleader; is there any way for an artist to be truly avant garde or is everything just jaded satire?

HH:An interesting question. No, it's still possible to shock people, too easy. People still have an incredible amount of body taboos. Trashing what people hold sacred gets old. The San Francisco audiences seem to enjoy my work. I have been kissed at U.S.F. and, if you can believe it, booed in Berkeley! Sometimes hard-line feminists get upset by some pieces, but generally San Franciscans are sophisticated enough to enjoy the show.

"Miracles of the Flesh" is part of the Footworks Dance Studio's series Edge Festival and will be performed October 12, 13 & 14 at 8:30. Footworks Dance Studio is located at 3221 22nd Street. Call (sorry folks, I lost the phone number) for more information.



Hank Hyena

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- by Betsy Randolph

MISSION GIRLS

A special group of Mission girls takes unusual field trips. One day, they visit KGO-TV anchorwoman Anna Chavez at Channel 7. Another day, they see the inside of ballerina Evelyn Cisneros' dance studio. And on another, they visit the building site of one of architect Anne Cervantes' projects.

These and other successful Hispanic women professionals talk to the girls about how they "made it" to where they are today. The girls ask questions about the women and their specific careers. In short, a healthy dose of positive role models for girls ranging in age from 8 to 17. Sound like a community worker's dream?

It was, over five years ago. Now it is alive and well in the YWCA Mission Girls' Services program, directed by Patricia Rodriguez. Snapshots of the girls on various field trips and cards handmade by them line one wall of Patricia's office. She is ready for another day of the after-school program. This morning she loaded her car with scraps of wood to use in today's sculpture session. During the school year there is an after-school program five days a week: for girls 8-12 Monday through Thursday, and for teens 13-16 on Fridays.

Former YWCA director Eleanor Jacobs spent over five years planning the new non-profit program for Hispanic girls in the Mission District. And five years preparing the grant which was awarded by the Irvine Foundation in 1988. The grant was divided between components of the YWCA, including the Western Addition center, Chinatown and the central YWCA office, as well as the new Mission Girls' Services, which began its program in February.

"The whole emphasis here is on mentorship and intervention," stresses Rodriguez, "... so the girls have exposure to Hispanic women leaders and professionals - to show them what is possible."

Research and analysis for the Mission program was made possible by an Hispanic advisory committee:

Rosemarie Fernandez, Teresa Ordonez, Amalia Mesa Baines and Jacobs. The Mission program was modelled after the YWCA Western Addition program, aimed at black girls and teens, directed by Etta Jones.

The Mission Girls Services is located in the Mission Education Center on 25th and Utah. On Monday - Thursday, girls 8-13 gather in the school cafeteria, have a snack and a homework session. The 10 to 18 girls who attend live all over the Mission, and come from Central and Latin America and Mexico. Most speak Spanish more than English. All participate in the activity of the day, usually arts and crafts such as painting sculpture or embroidery, using recycled and/or donated materials. The typical after-school session ends with recreation time.

The program also includes occasional field trips and cultural outings, discussion of health issues and ongoing contact with a pool of voluntary mentors/adult role models from several professions.

The Teen Club (girls 14-17) divides their time between skills/crafts (such as how to make clothes), discussion of topics like drugs, pregnancy and hygiene, self esteem, career options and a community service project. This fall they will design, plan, draw and paint a mural in Balmy Alley on the very spot where Rodriguez, herself an artist, painted a mural.

Mission Girls Services this June launched a Summer Mentorship program, whose theme was "Reaching for the Future". It was a tremendous success. The summer program, aimed specifically at girls 11-17, involves many field trips and guest speakers to explore career opportunities and talk about health issues facing teens.

Generally, each of the six weeks focuses one day on health issues, one day on self-image and self-esteem and one optional day of free dance classes or arts and crafts. On the other two days, the mentorship component exposes girls to professional women, sometimes by visiting an unusual or specialized work site.



Pat Rodriguez with Luisa Martinez.

When she began as program director, Rodriguez started with a rolodex file of names and started making phone calls and writing letters. She managed to develop an impressive list of Hispanic women willing to participate in the unique program. This list may be tribute, in part, to her enthusiastic personality but, more importantly, it demonstrates her experience in the arts, education and non-profit agencies, and her ability to network. She has contacts everywhere from the Arts Commission to the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

After Mission Girls' Services had been planned and funded, Rodriguez was recruited as a candidate for director. And she is a natural for the job. She moved to the Bay Area in the 1960's from Southern California. She lived on Balmy Alley for 17 years and was part of the muralist collective that adorned the tiny street with vibrant images. Though she has painted other murals in the Mission, most of her pieces are "box constructions" made with found objects.

In addition to being an artist, Rodriguez is a teacher of art and ESL, and has been a rehabilitation counselor. She has worked for numerous non-profit agencies, including the San Fran-

cisco Women's Building and Goodwill. Rodriguez has no children of her own, but "these are my kids," she smiles.

The future may involve collaboration with the Girl Scouts organization, which has approached Mission Girls Services and expressed interest in coordinating a teen mothers' program. Girl Scouts would provide a volunteer or part-time staff. "We need a person who really knows what's going on out there," says Rodriguez, who is delighted with the Girl Scouts proposal.

Presently there are three sessions during the school year: Sept. 11 - Dec. 1, Dec. 4 - Feb. 23 and Feb. 26 - June 18. Sign-up requires an \$8 yearly YWCA membership fee. A forthcoming brochure will be distributed to schools around the Mission. Meanwhile, persons interested in the program as young participant or as mentor may call Patricia Rodriguez after 11AM at 648-2826.



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IN COUNTRY AND OUT ON THE STREET

- by Greg Sellers

In the Mission District, evidence of homelessness is everywhere. On the faces of those asking for money, in the tangled bundles of rags stuffed in doorways which serve as beds and shelter. Even those who try to remain ignorant about the homeless know that their numbers have increased dramatically in the last decade, and that the services designed to assist them are woefully inadequate.

One of those service agencies trying to help the homeless is Swords to Plowshares, a North Mission-based veterans service agency. It may be surprising, at first, to hear that a veterans' organization is so involved with the homeless, but, as Mayor Agnos pointed out when presenting his homeless plan last month, 37% of San Francisco's homeless are veterans. Nationally the percentage is even greater. As a counselor with Swords to Plowshares, Stephen Malecek knows first-hand the size of the problems that put the men and women who have served their country out on the street. He knows not only because he assists them daily, but because his history is intertwined with their own.

Malecek has been counseling veterans for 20 years. He began his work as a social work/clinical psychology specialist with the United States Army in Viet Nam. His job description mandated that he was to render psychological counseling to his fellow soldiers and assist the Division Psychiatrist in completing Psychological Evaluations. He gathered information about individuals both before and during their military service to be used for evaluations.

In the Army, psychiatric evaluations served a basic function. If a person was

determined able to perform his job but refused, his failure was treated as a criminal offense. If he was determined psychologically unfit, then it was important to know if that person had become psychologically unfit during their service, or if their troubles stemmed from earlier problems. In most cases, according to Malecek, "The military wanted very badly to prove that the incidents of an enlisted man's early life led

from their experiences in Viet Nam, but are unable to receive help because of "undesirable discharges" or other hindrances.

For others who served in Viet Nam, the problems did not surface until they returned home. Largely rejected by a nation they had been asked to serve, unable to find meaningful employment, and haunted by the memories of a devastating war many veterans turned

breakdowns, the alienation of family and friends, and other devastating consequences.

Swords to Plowshares was founded by veterans who knew that the unique problems of Viet Nam veterans were not being met through traditional means. Today, their work has expanded to include many types of services for veterans from all eras. From their headquarters at 15th and Valencia, and from their Transitional Housing Program at 44 McAllister Street in the Tenderloin, they assist veterans by providing both short and long-term services, including counseling, employment assistance, legal assistance and transitional housing when they are on the road to recovery.

Though the war ended 15 years ago, Malecek finds that much work still needs to be done to assist those who fought it. "Many of the men who cross my path today were, twenty years ago, the same desperate men who wanted at all costs to leave behind the stinking hellhole existence of Viet Nam and return to the 'world' for a new life," he says. "Their very existences today are threatened by a choice made in blindness to the consequences and the impetuosity of their youth."

Malecek knows of the difficulties faced by veterans because he has experienced many of them himself. He sees his experiences as valuable assets in his work. "My having five and a half years sobriety from alcohol and seven years abstinence from cocaine have given me well tempered tools with which to work," he says.

Malecek is particularly pleased about being able to give more direct and meaningful assistance to those he was once unable to help as directly.



Steve Malecek

Photo by M.P.R. Howard

irrevocably to his 'acting out behavior' in the service and therefore 'existed prior to service' and was not the responsibility of the military."

Because of this, many of these very young men (the average age of Viet Nam servicemen was 19) took an 'undesirable discharge' in order to get out of their hellish existence. 20 years later, many of these men still suffer

to substance abuse and other destructive habits to combat their difficulties.

Others were haunted by Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD), a condition that was just recently recognized by the Veterans Administration. PTSD could be described as a delayed reaction to their experiences. The memories of their war experiences brought for many veterans emotional

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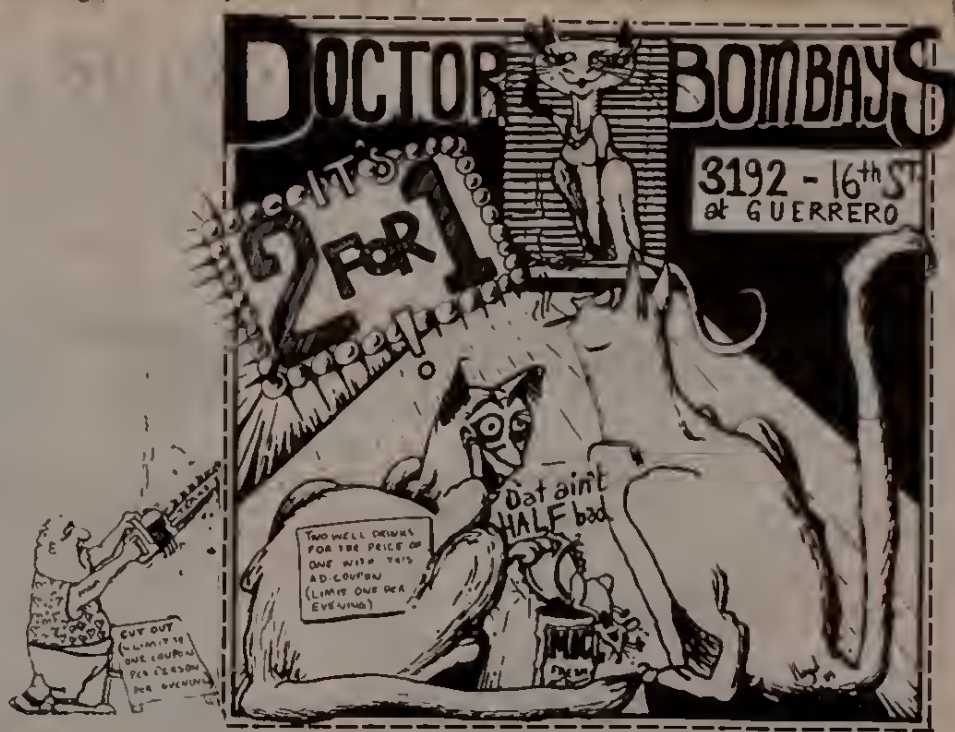
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Painting, like a spiritual search and bridge where the figurative is driven by its own space, creating an illusion of occult forces of what is to come. Bodies that are incorporated with symbols represented by animals with lights of the sky, people with their screams and sighs lost in the black night of death. And the rebirth, in the middle of these transcendental rites and ceremonies, like percussion music united by primitive drums, of the artistic desperation of creating a unique style in a post-modernistic world of brilliant colors like ethereal lights. The art of looking tirelessly within the Arabic culture, with its antiquity and the magical significance of its symbols within the depth of the painting, is what artist Marroqui Soliman presents on this occasion through 16 new works which, as a series, reflect the artistic maturity that he has achieved through his work, well integrated with his harmonious intentions. In this series the language of disintegration of ordinary humanity is appreciated to offer us some aspects that are hidden at first glance where the superficial lies. Permitting us to go beyond that to the interior perhaps to discover what is in the depth of our being, deep within our soul, dancing the craziness of life as a propellant of the creative forces. This is how Soliman paints on his canvases.

"The story behind a symbolic painting was that it was made during an hour that seemed like eternity... I was completely dominated by a strange force where I did not feel like it was me that was painting but... when I finished it had



two sides, two paintings. On the first side, primary symbols with gold on green with a Mussulman figure with a castle and symbolic images, a woman in a Harem, volatile forces, and a subterranean river. The other side is like a night in Arabic stories where everything happens with magic and love, this solitary creativity, and that is called creating God from within yourself."

If we really enter the paintings of Alabanchabouchi Soliman (his full name), we find ourselves in a world of images, drawings that have different origins and causes. Mussulman myths,

modern history, the Bible, tales that seem to be taken from "1001 Nights", where we can clearly see the beauty of the women of the desert and the silent passion of the men who love closing themselves in a very personal world where the strong sensations of these elements join together to offer us the essential ingredients of the magical alientos.

"There is no direct response that can be given by the artist. No modern painter can express with word when interviewed. They are left with the innocent recourse of the plastic meaning

of the images in their paintings, outside of the literary imagination," Soliman affirmed.

In a moment... "What could I say as a literary reference?" (His work seems wise in its supreme forms.) There are no titles on any of his works. It is then that the viewer must force his sleeping imagination and create an explanation in each of the works. I go painting by painting... this one seems to represent women in a symbolic duality... that one, the flower of the Palestine resurrection... the next one, a portrait of the prophet... the sacred symbolic scriptures... knowledge of the personal universe... earth and fire... and on, the dove of peace. And so on in this way, the last three paintings are absolutely primitive with an African flavor, with the virtue that they conjugate a lyricism like that of the language of meditation and their elegance is like that of a medium of sensual depths, of this ancient art from a continent besieged by mysterious artists, which has a lot to communicate to our western culture.

The public is cordially invited to admire these works during the month of September until the middle of October at the Cafe Nidal located at 2491 Mission Street in San Francisco. If you would like more information, please call 285-4334.

Mario Joel

Photo by Fuminori Sato

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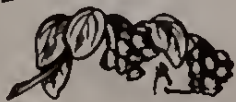
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MISSION: COMPUTE DESKTOP PUBLISHING ... are you in for it ?

by Manuel E. Dávila

Can you imagine, being able to produce printed materials with the looks of a nicely printed book, with graphics and photographs right from your desk, in one piece, and no messy paste-up? Well, it can be done, but it is not as easy, or inexpensive as you may think.

Most people, especially those closer to computers, may have at one time or another come across this relatively new buzzword — Desktop Publishing (DTP in Newspeak). Typesetters and printers with heavy machines have become endangered species by virtue of the capacity allowed by computerized equipment, to control from beginning to end the publication process — the editing, proofing, spell-checking, laying out, separation of colors, collating, cross referencing, indexing, etc. All this without messing around with paint cans or perilous fumes.

The capacity to produce quality printed material using existing computer hardware and software is within the reach of most small organizations. A decent entry level system may be put together for far less than \$5,000, and this includes a laser printer, a fast AT (80286) machine with a fast hard disk, and the necessary software.

However, let me forewarn you, these costs do not include training, literature, costly mistakes, maintenance, and additional software or hardware needed. And of course, materials need to be printed and your laser printer can only produce originals. So, add printing costs. Now that you know the nature of the inherent risks of getting into DTP, let's move on.

Learning DTP without word processing skills is analogous to learning computers without typing skills. DTP is really enhanced word processing. Word

processing made the typewriter obsolete and nowadays we only use typewriters for small jobs, but particularly to fill out forms, although there is quite a number of programs in the market that purportedly make filling forms by computer a breeze.

Word processing revolutionized the office and the economy. The business potential offered by these new capabilities gave traditional secretaries the opportunity to rid themselves of the 9 to 5 ordeal, by allowing many of them to set up their own shops and gain independence from their former dead end jobs. The changes have been so dramatic, that today's surveys indicate there will be a shortage of secretaries within the next ten years, enough to create 10,000,000 slots for these positions.

Although wordprocessing mechanized the production of text, the looks and quality of the final printed product was not very different from the one obtained with electronic typewriters. Then, DTP arrived.

State of the art DTP programs not only incorporated most of the capabilities offered by word processing, but they also offered the capabilities of typesetting, and more. These capabilities include huge libraries of fonts or typefaces (letter styles), which give to the text the looks of a fancy publication. DTP eliminated the need to learn the complicated codes used by traditional typesetters to handle the attributes of text, and offered the ability to integrate graphics, drawings and electronic clip art to the text.

Although DTP programs are able to use text produced by any word processing program, many word processing programs have evolved in the direction of DTP, being able to utilize typefaces and to integrate graphics and artwork with text. However, when it comes to the production of demanding jobs such as books, catalogs, and magazines, word processing is no match for DTP.

For beginners, I recommend First Publisher from Software Publishing Corporation; it is powerful, simple to learn, and offers features comparable to more sophisticated DTP applications. For industrial strength DTP, Pagemaker from Aldus, and Ventura Publisher from Xerox Corp are widely used. There is a host of other DTP and typesetting programs from other vendors; too numerous to be listed here.

In addition many "utility" programs have been developed to create typefaces of any design and size, to create your own drawings and graphs, and to facilitate the whole process. Huge libraries of quality electronic clip art are available, and many of them may be freely obtained from electronic bulletin boards. To be continued.

Questions? Suggestions? write to Manuel E. Dávila, THE ELVES Office Support Services, 3370 - 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110, or call (415) 824-4418

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EL CANTO POPULAR



If you want an inside view of what is happening in Latin America and to be thoroughly entertained at the same time, the 8th Annual Encuentro del Canto Popular is an event to underline on your calendar. The three day festival will run October 6th-8th at 8 PM at the York Theatre, bringing over 50 folk artists from North, Central and South America to San Francisco. There will also be a special free children's concert on Saturday, October 7th from 1-3 PM.

Encuentro del Canto Popular, or The New Song Movement, is the melding of music with social commentary. In some ways, it is not unlike North American folk music - though with a pronounced Latin accent. Traditional instrumentation and styles of music are played to emphasize cultural identity and awareness, while lyrics give insight to the day to day struggles in contemporary Latin America, such as land reform, freedom of expression, women's rights and government oppression.

The New Song Movement has been an active participant in the fight for social change and justice in South and Central America since the 1960s. In Cuba prior to the revolution, during the Allende years in Chile and as part of the Sandanista victory in Nicaragua, Canto Popular played an effective role. The movement has now become international in scope. There is a particularly strong following in Europe, where many exiled Latin American artists have sought refuge. Canto Popular has also grown in popularity here as well.

"What started off as a fundraiser for El Tecolote newspaper has turned into a three day festival with performers from all over the world," Karen Jovin, a member of Encuentro del Canto Popular Committee, excitedly pointed out. "We have a twelve member committee working throughout the year on this event and have been forced to move to a larger facility for this year's celebration.

"Encuentro is a way for local Latinos to catch up on news from home. Over the last eight years we have built up a base of support in the

Community which we are very grateful for and which has allowed the festival to prosper. We are also interested, however, in reaching non-Latino members of the community who might be interested in participating in Encuentro. This year's festival will be bilingual with performers and mcs alternating between English and Spanish."

Among the impressive list of performers at this year's Encuentro are Nicaragua's cultural ambassador of the New Song Luis Enrique Mejia Godoy and legendary Chicano folk singer Lalo Guerrero. Godoy is an acoustical guitarist and lead singer of Nicaragua's GRUPO MANCOTAL, as well as being the director of the Nicaraguan Cultural Recording Company. Guerrero is known for his corridos, songs of social protests, and humorous parodies. In 1980 he was invited to perform at the White House and he was recently awarded the coveted "Golden Eagle Trophy" by the Latino arts and entertainment organization NOSOTROS.

On Sunday non-Latin interpreters of New Song will be featured. Included will be the popular North American reggae group Casselberry & DuPrec, Native American singer Vincent Craig and the Phillipino group Kulintang Arts. Saturday's children's concert will feature BUSTER of Channel 4's "Buster & Me".

The Encuentro del canto Popular organizing committee is primarily a Latino cultural group based in San Francisco's Mission District. It is affiliated with Accion Latina, the umbrella organization that also publishes El Tecolote newspaper. The committee was founded in 1981, the year of the first Festival of the New Song. The committee operates as a collective and its goals are to promote popular culture and to support those musical groups or individuals who are interpreters of the New Song. These goals are achieved through hosting a yearly festival, networking with New Song musicians and other New Song Committees and supporting New Song events. For further information on this year's event, call (415) 824-7882.

Len Jacobson



César Ascarrunz

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MISSION DISTRICT CALENDAR OCTOBER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Dave & Dee's Improvisational Spirit with jazz and R&B each Wednesday at Bajone's. No cover, 8 pm to midnight. 1062 Valencia, 282-2522.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

Bee-Eye, a world-premiere play by Joe Besecker, deals with an arrogant playwright (Edward), his lover and two honeymooning couples, including a self-destructive actress, all in lovely Puerto Vallarta. 8 pm Thursday-Saturday; 2 pm Sunday through Nov. 5. Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission, 626-6715. \$8.

Celeste West reads from *A Lesbian Love Advisor*, her new book on the sweet and savory arts of lesbian courtship that's written tongue-in-chic. 7:30, Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia, \$5 donation or one perfect rose.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

Open Screening for all films, shown on a first-come basis. Super-8, 16mm, 1/2" and 3/4" accepted. Free, 8 pm, Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission.

YWCA Training for Political Candidates in this weekend workshop to teach women strategies for winning public office and ways to advocate issues in the community. \$125, registration at 8 am. But call 775-6502 to ensure registration. Sheehan Hotel, 620 Sutter.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

Carlos Fuentes, the great Mexican novelist and essayist, reads from his new novel, *Christopher Unborn*, set in Mexico City in 1992. 7 pm, Horace Mann Middle School, 23rd at Valencia. Free. Sponsored by Modern Times Bookstore.

Men's Brunch for older gay men (60+) sponsored by Operation Concern at St. Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero from noon to 3. Bring food to share. 626-7000.

International Artists and Musicians Soirée: Funky Haight-Ashbury scene with Italian dinner, wine, open mike, live jazz-rock-experimental music and fun, unusual, interesting people. Proceeds go to producing Haight-Ashbury Free Band guerrilla theater events and benefit concerts. 6:30 pm, \$7-10 suggested donation. Call 553-8769 for location.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

Bay Area Theatre Sports Junior Varsity and Varsity Match combines up-and-coming workshop talent with vets. 8 pm, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th, \$6.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Toward a Nuclear Free Zone as Steve Bloom (Nuclear Free California) discusses Nuclear Free Zones worldwide, in the U.S., and California and current grassroots campaigns. 7:30, New College, 777 Valencia, \$3-\$5 sliding scale. 255-2940.



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Malpractice, a docudrama from Australia about a childbirth that goes wrong, gets its Bay Area premiere at the Roxie. It played to enthusiastic audiences at the 1989 Cannes Film Festival, and runs through Oct. 17. 6, 8, and 10 pm, 3117 16th. 863-1087. (*Childbirth that goes wrong* reminds one of Mark Twain's comment, "Why is it that we rejoice at a birth and grieve at a funeral? It is because we are not the person involved.")

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Immediate Family is playwright/actress Terry Baum's acclaimed one-woman show that portrays the love between two women, one in a coma and dying. All proceeds benefit the Domestic Partnership Campaign. 8 pm, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th. \$10 at BASS/STBS or call 863-9834. *Also Saturday, same time.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Wearable Art from Linda Lorraine and Dee Russell as part of the Open Studios show in which artists all over the city open studios to the public. Besides Lorraine's finger painted gloves and Russell's hand-painted pins, there'll be live performances by Russell, poets, and comedians. 11 am, 3851 17th, Unit 1, 255-1276. *Also Sunday.*

Fundraiser for Yes on S (Domestic Partners) with jazz by the New Mainstream Quintet. 5 to 8 pm, Manzanita Books, 3686 20th Street; donation. 648-0957.

Not necessarily Aquarius as the Roxie shows *Water Baby: Experiences of Water Birth*, Karil Daniels' award-winning documentary on this whole new concept of childbirth. Noon, the Roxie, 3117 16th. *Also Sunday.* Daniels will be on hand both days at 1 pm to discuss the film and the politics of childbirth, and answer questions.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Puerto Rican Relief Fund Committee Benefit Dance. Come, share, dance, and make a contribution to help the victims of Hurricane Hugo in Puerto Rico. Cesar's Latin Palace, 6-12 PM, \$10. 399-5225/550-9323

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

Bay Area Theatre Sports All-Star Character Night directed by Drew Letchworth. 8 pm, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th, \$8.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

N.O.W. lobbying bills in the state legislature discussed by Linda Joplin, N.O.W. State Coordinator. 7:30, The Women's Building, 3543 18th Street. 981-5282.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Men Dancing Program I presents works choreographed for and performed by men, with Lucas Hoving, Jeff Friedman, San Francisco Saddletramps, Marcelo Pereira & Cassio Martinho of Bay Area Capoeira Institute, and Robert Henry Johnson. 8:30 pm, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th, \$12. *Also Friday at 8:30, Sunday at 2:30 pm.*

Low-End Magic: New Videos by George Kuchar, SF's master of underground kitsch. 10 videos shown today and tomorrow at 7 & 9 pm, The Roxie, 3117 16th St.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

(this is not) an **AIDS Reading** presents the work of the literary community that recognizes the impact of AIDS and creates a sensibility that dispels myths and furthers understanding. Participants are Kathy Acker, Pat Califia, Jewelle Gomez, Essex Hemphill, June Jordan and Paul Monette. 7:30, Victoria Theater, 2961 16th, \$5.

Gay & Sandinista as activist Tede Matthews discusses his recent participation in the gay contingent of the Nicaraguan Revolution's 10th anniversary celebration and the emergence of gay and lesbian consciousness there. 7:30, Modern Times, 968 Valencia, \$3-\$5 sliding scale donation.

Men Dancing Program II (see Oct. 18), with Roger Dillahunt, the Rawhide Rustlers, Jeff Friedman, Jon Weaver, Juan Crovetto, Tracy Rhodes and Dr. Schaffer & Mr. Stern with their friend Gregg Lizenbery. 8:30 pm, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th, \$12. *Also Saturday and Sunday at 8:30.*

Activision: Documents of Dissent featuring video shorts of political street theater and creative actions around abortion, AIDS, etc. 8:30, ATA, 992 Valencia. \$3.

Elbows Akimbo creates modern-mythic dramas known for intense sensuality and magical power, all with text, movement and music. This theatre troupe is praised by SF Weekly and even the Examiner! 8:30, Footwork, 3221 22nd, \$10. *Also Fri./Sat.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Tattoo Fashion Show and Piercing Videos in opening night of *Modern Primitives*, a series on Body Modifications. Tonight's show features a *tattoo fashion show* and a video of *genital piercing*. No, I'm serious, it says it right here in this press release. 7 pm, Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama, 863-2141. \$4.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Saturday Night Movies with **Radical Women** screens *Mitsuye & Nellie*, *Asian American Poets* and *With Babies and Banners*. The former weaves together the childhood experiences of these feminist poets/activists; the latter documents the 1937 General Motors Sit-Down Strike and the key role played by black and white working women. 7 pm, Valencia Hall, 523A Valencia near 16th. \$3 donation. 864-1278.

If you have trouble reading this, or know someone who does, check out the Library's free service for parents who need help with their reading. The storytime series features readings, songs and poems, with free children books and bus fare given out. Each Saturday at 10 am through Dec. 9 at the Mission Library, 3359 24th. Show up or call Shelley Sorenson at 621-7323.

Physical Illuminations: a panel featuring artists on S&M culture, radical body modification, and wounding and cuttings by women as a healthy response to a sick society. 8 pm, Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama, 863-2141. \$5.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

Children's Multicultural Arts Day in the Green Room of the Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness. This show features the arts, crafts, songs and dance of many different cultures and is absolutely free. 11 am to 4 pm; call 673-2197 for more details.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

Greener Pastures: Our Birthright to the Earth (and let's not trade it for pottage). Alanna Hartzok (California Land Trust) discusses land ownership, tenure and rights and the impact on the environment. Sponsored by SF Greens. 7:30, New College, 777 Valencia. Donation, \$3-\$10; no one turned away for lack of green stuff. 255-2940.

Black Storytelling with Diane Forlatte for ages 3-8 at 10 am at the Mission Library, 3359 24th.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Starhawk reads from and signs copies of the 10th Anniversary edition of her classic, *Spiral Dance*. All welcome. 7:30, Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

Can't Cage the Spirit features tapes on political prisoners in the U.S., including Geronimo Pratt. 8:30, ATA, 992 Valencia. \$3.

Canciones Nuevas Y Aneja (New and Ancient Songs), an evening of dance and music combining theatrical, flamenco and folklore forms with guitarist Stephen Dick and dancer/choreographer Kathy Thomas. 8 pm, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th, 863-9834. \$10. *Also Friday and Saturday, same time.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

Don Ed Hardy, the thinking man's tattooist, presents a slide show of rare and extraordinary tattoos, and discusses tattooing in history, culture and modern life. 8 pm, Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama, \$4. (Part of the *Modern Primitives* show.)

El Paso/Juarez and Work In Progress by photographer Elizabeth Sisco addresses the complex and difficult realities of immigration on the U.S./Mexican border. Also, *Resettlement and the American Dream* by photographer Mary L. Thamann examines a tradition of immigration to the U.S., centered in California and the West. Reception 6 pm; show runs through Dec. 9. Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission, 431-6911.

Body Electric Part II is a multi-media, poetry and music series in celebration of the individual's right to freedom of expression. Kathy Goss, Neeli Cherkovski, Tory Miller, Gary Glazner and Jack Hirschman, with Phil Deal and his two kinetic light towers and music. 8 pm, Phil Deal Performance Gallery, 401 Alabama. \$5.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

Body Electric Part III is more multi-media, with Jack Micheline, Jimmy Lyons, Alejandro Murguia and Wordwind Chorus, and Phil Deal and his two kinetic light towers. 8 pm, Phil Deal Performance Gallery, 401 Alabama. \$5.

It's Halloween at ATA with the annual horror show that hovers between the sacred and profane with ghoulish flicks. Plus free hard cider! 8:30 pm, 922 Valencia.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

It's Halloween from the folks at Operation Concern with a Halloween dance for older lesbians & friends. 2-5 pm, St. Francis Lutheran, 152 Church. Free. 626-7000.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

It's Halloween time again at the Library as kids can hear a story and make their own Trick-or-Treat bag. 3:30 pm, 3359 24th. A scary library! Wow. Call 824-2810.

Also Halloween at Bajones with \$50 reward for best costume and best costumed couple. No cover (other than the costume covering you), 7 pm, 1062 Valencia.

ONGOING

Walk the Walls the first and third Saturday of each month as the Precita Eyes Muralists lead a walking tour of Mission District murals, including Balmy Alley. Meet at 1:30 pm, 348 Precita near Folsom. \$3 general, \$1 for students. 285-2287.

After finishing this issue of NMN, send away to State Senator Quentin Kopp for *A Consumer Guide to Asbestos*, equally free and chocked full of in-depth reporting and facts. 363 El Camino Real, South San Francisco, 94080, or call 952-5666.

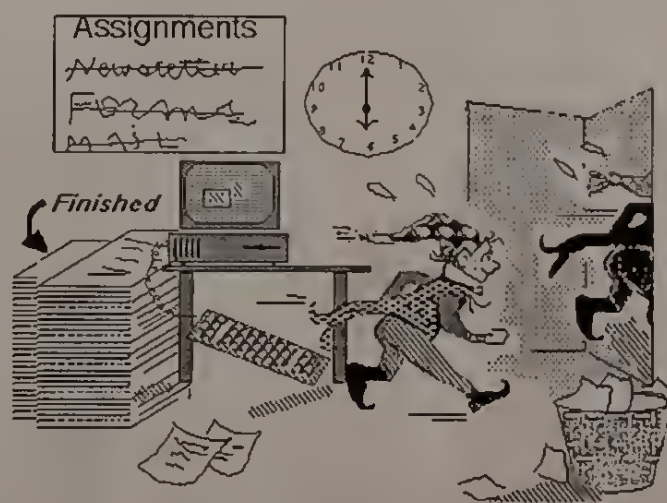
La Casa de las Madres needs volunteers to help provide battered women a safe shelter. Work includes counseling, support groups, childcare. Call 777-1808.

Cabinet Making Training for those 17 to 21, with basic conversational English and math skills. This 16 week program takes 16 hours per week and is sponsored by Asian Neighborhood Design. Call Steve Kaut, 822-3415, for application.

Calendar listings are free to all Mission organizations; \$5 for outsider mentions. The Calendar Editor is completely responsible for all intended and unintended insults. If necessary, complain at 641-0889. So leave NMN Editor Victor Miller alone.

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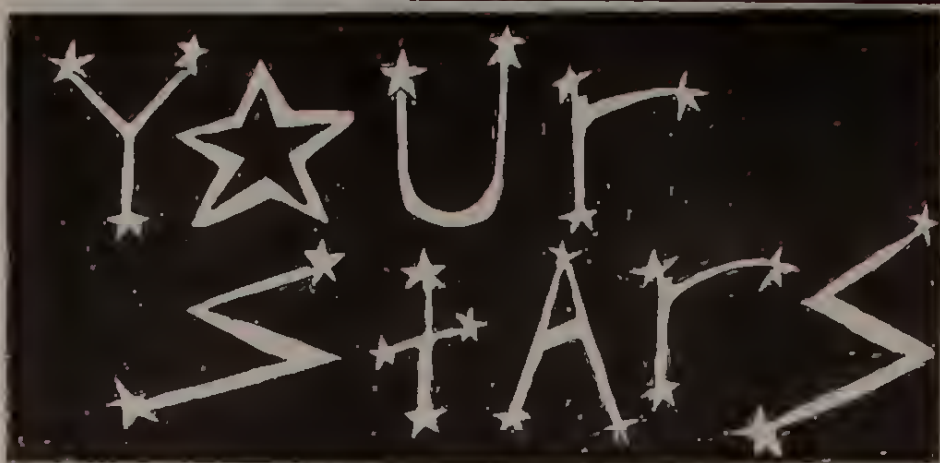
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ALMANAC: After all the hype'n'jive of the summer, this autumn should be noticeably peaceful and serene. There's no eclipses, no planetary fly-bys, no upsetting solar flares, and the gods and goddesses have decided to take a nice rest through our Indian Summer. By the end of October, we will be ready to celebrate Halloween with masks, mysteries and music. Heave a sigh of relief and carefully integrate the incredible changes of last summer into the routine of each new day. So much has happened it will take more than time to get used to it all.

ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 19): You are truly beautiful this month. Your aura is glowing golden red. Your smile is cute enough to be in magazines. And your sense of humor is sure to knock people's socks off. Notice how many people are nuzzling up next to you; any feelings of claustrophobia must disappear. That old paranoia about being dominated or controlled by your lover has turned out to be a horrible falsehood. Surrender. Relax. Let yourself be loved.

TAURUS (APR 20 - MAY 20): You will discover amazing organizational skills which will bring you into the inner circles of power this month. Lock your mind and spirit onto a major problem and, no matter how big it is, by month's end you will have mustered the forces necessary to make a real and permanent change. Naturally, give plenty of credit to your team; for a leader is nothing without the followers. P.S. Mental health is more important than physical health this month.

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN 20): An incredible fascination with young people overwhelms all your plans and passions this month. Big business, political responsibilities, even spiritual maturity make you feel too old, and so you resort to playing with the toys of the children. Old friends and family members may make some critical judgments; they want to know if you're ever going to grow up. But, as far as you're concerned, the freedom to play around is the source of life. By all means, have fun.

CANCER (JUN 21 - JUL 22): Despite your hysterical confusion last summer, housemates are willing to invest you with complete trust. You find yourself being head of the family whether you really want to be or not. While your popularity in the social scene ebbs and your career takes a temporary down-turn, focus your love on the people who live in your house. Make good food together; decorate the halls together; snuggle up in each others' honesty. Home, sweet home!

LEO (JUL 23 - AUG 22): This whole month is like a constant training session for you. In order to accomplish your big dreams for a socially relevant job, you will have to learn how to operate a whole new set of tools. Your mind is clear as a bell and your curiosity is at a peak. For a person your age, you couldn't expect any more interest in starting all over again. The only problem in this process is the commute. Seriously consider getting into a carpool in order to save gas and parking time.

VIRGO (AUG 23 - SEP 22): One of the toughest things for a Virgo to do is to worry about him/herself first. Being selfish is naturally contradictory for those born under this sign. This month the financial situation could

force you into a much more selfish approach; although you'd like to help your lover and your friends, the facts suggest that taking care of yourself is the solution to everyone's problems. Take more than what you deserve and give less than you should.

LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22): You are simply stunning! A birthday like this comes only once in many lifetimes. You really are a star and everybody in town knows it. Stand tall and be a super- dooper example for all the others who are struggling with their dreams. You are a model of glorious success and nobody can deny it. For your astrological chart, send birth date/time/place and \$2 to Robert Cole, P.O. Box 884561, San Francisco, CA 94188.

SCORPIO (OCT 23 - NOV 22): Perched precariously on a tower of power makes you feel a little dizzy. How did you ever get so high on the totem pole of authority? Apparently you have a natural talent for leadership and the others are looking to you for any kind of direction. Be aggressive. Assert yourself in front of the crowds. While you may lack a practical plan of action, nevertheless you have an incredible style which everybody else wants too. Flaunt it but keep your balance always.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 23 - DEC 21): Suddenly the whole future is wide open in front of you. There's a thrilling excitement which greets you at the beginning of each day in October. It's possible you haven't felt this inspired in years. Consider all the possibilities. Let your imagination run wild. By the time Halloween rolls around, you should have a grip on a dream that'll keep you motivated for the next year, at least. Refuse to talk or think about money all month long.

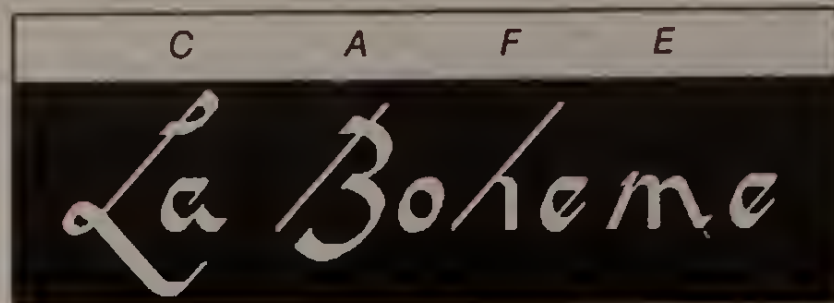
CAPRICORN (DEC 22 - JAN 19): Performing on stage may be a new form of creative expression for you, but you sure adapt to it like a duck takes to water. Anything that gives you a chance to show off in front of big crowds simply turns you on. It's impossible to make a fool of yourself after all your shenanigans last summer, so let it rip!!! Ordinary respectable people may level unflattering judgments upon you, but what do they know anyway. It's OK to be nasty.

AQUARIUS (JAN 20 - FEB 18): You will be contacted by extraterrestrials this month. They will speak to you through a gentle voice in the back of your mind. They will guide you into places which are full of peace and honesty. They will introduce you to truly important spiritualists who will teach you things that will change your life. By Halloween, your mystical experience will be finished. prepare your lover for a whole new huggable you.

PISCES (FEB 19 - MAR 20): Everybody is just dying to share his/her deepest secrets with you this month. You will get the inside story on certain friends (and enemies) who have kept important information hidden from everybody for months. You have the power to spread the news around the community, but it could destroy the trust other clients have in you. If you dangle juicy gossip in front of wolves, you're likely to get bitten. Dish it out piecemeal.

—by Robert Cole

Cappuccino and sunlight.



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THE RIGHT TO BE STUPID

- by Frank Deadbeat

Bravely, the girlfriend struggled to control her gag reflex as she read my latest column for the North Mission News. When she had finished it, she lay the paper neatly on the table, and threw up on it.

"So what did you think?"

"It was great," she said. "I liked it."

"No, really. What did you think?"

"Well..." She sneezed at Ig the Cat, who jumped up on the table to sniff the paper. "I thought it was kinda gross."

"Yes? And?"

"And kinda stupid."

"Stupid? STUPID?" I lit a joint, took a swig of Jolt and beat myself vigorously about the head with a large rubber mallet. "It is my God-given right as an AMERICAN to be stupid!"

"You're not an American, dummy. You're a Kraut. A wetback. A resident alien, remember?"

"Yeah, well, the point's still valid. It's just like with this damned drug hysteria. Everybody getting whipped into a frenzy of sensibility so they'll just lay down and surrender their right to be stupid. The right to be stupid is a sacred thing, Kathie. Even the right to be sick is a holy thing."

"I guess that sort of makes you a priest, huh?"

"Very funny. But just remember this: the ideal America we all talk about was supposedly based on the right -- and the privacy -- to experiment, innovate and make mistakes -- in short, to be freely, gloriously stupid, rather than dully, deadly sensible. The Bill of Rights was not penned so that we would all have the inalienable right to march off, clean and sober by governmental decree, to our soul-annihilating jobs in the Financial Hive every day. It wasn't framed to increase productivity (whatever that is), or to

make the trains run on time. A dictator could do that. Hitler would make the 33 run on time, and he'd clean out the hubba palaces.

"Or maybe -- just maybe -- if he was reecal smart, he'd let the hubba thing get reecal bad -- bad enough to finally justify a radical curtailment of civil liberties -- maybe even a kind of martial

heads, anarchists and "pinkos"! ("They all look like niggers to me, Herr President." "Then round them up, mein dear Heinrich, round them up!")

"Dan Quayle said that if his son were caught with a joint, he'd be on his own." Just think about that for a minute. You see, all this blind intolerance and rahid zeal to punish is

was built on the right to be stupid. Even the Nazi skinheads get to march, and you can't get more stupid than that. We're all supposed to have the right to say stupid things, and write stupid things, and worship stupid things -- so what happened to my right to get stupid in the privacy of my own skin? Now, I may need healing -- maybe I should quit smoking cigarets, too -- but I'm not a criminal.

"I think I know the difference between a criminal and someone who's sick. I see criminals like George Bush every day on television, but what I see in Valencia Gardens is a lot of people who are sic; who need to heal themselves. Now, I also see a lot of folks in the Mission exercising their right to be stupid to the point of making themselves sick with booze, but that's legal, see? There's a tax on it. Conservatives drink booze. Executives. It's the kind of stupidity they can understand, because it fosters lower consciousness and encourages gorilla social patterns, whereas pot and LSD tend to be used by people who question authority. So guess who the government is declaring war on?"

She rolled her eyes. "You, Frank. The F.B.I. has all your North Mission News columns in a big file marked "D" for Deadbeat. They're just waiting for you to slip up."

"That's right! I'm not safe inside my own skin!"

"That's true, dear. But I still think your column's kinda stupid. And you're about to burn your lips again."

"What?"

"I said you're about to... oh, never mind."



law! He would criminalize the underclass instead of radicalizing it. ('More prisons, Herr President?' 'Ja, mein dear Heinrich, und also camps!')

"And while the hubba thing was going down, maybe Eva Braun could help mobilize a propaganda war -- a national drug hysteria that would make no distinction between slave drugs like crack and "head" drugs like pot and LSD. Not only would the ghetto underclass be criminalized, but also the liberal white kids, the dissenters, dead-

just as stupid as getting stoned, but it's also evil. It's un American, by God!"

"You'll burn your lips if you try smoking from that end," the girlfriend said.

"What?"

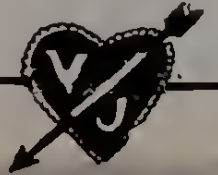
"I said you're going to..."

"WOO OOOO OOP!"

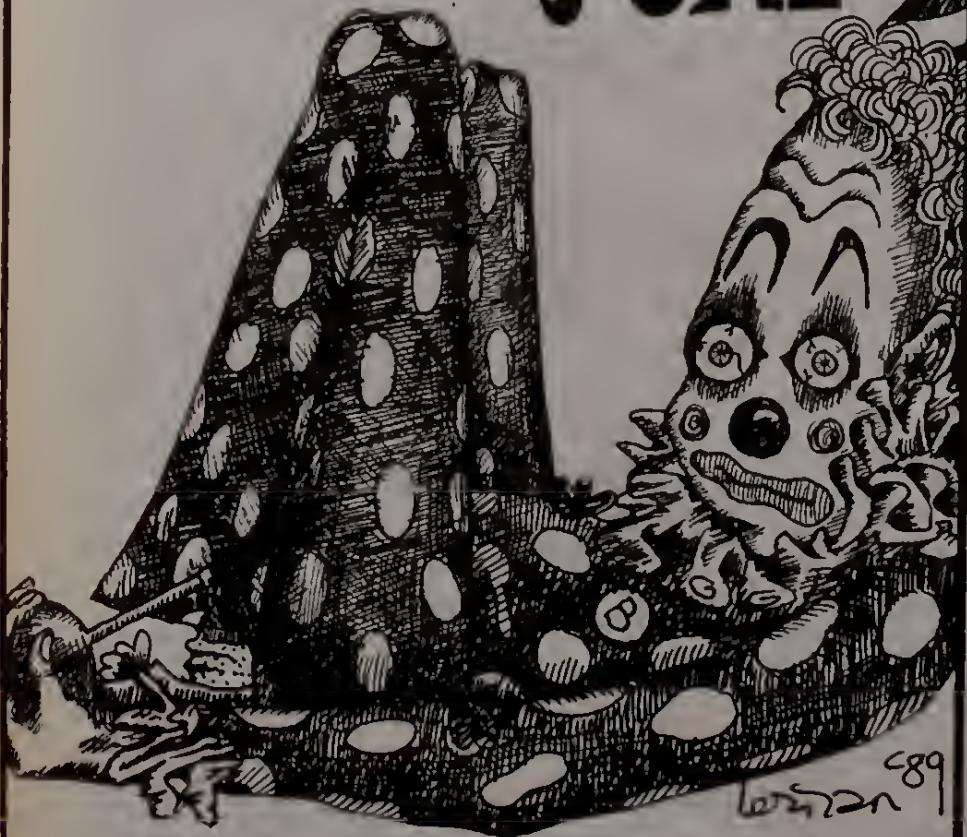
"Try putting some cold Jolt on it.

No, not that way. Now you're spilling it all over your... oh, never mind."

"As I was saying," I continued through my blistered lips, "this country



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